

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, August 15, 1985

Published Since 1877



**VISIBLE VANILLA** — Christine Gregory of Danville, Va., was elected first vice president of the Baptist World Alliance for 1985-90. The former national president of Woman's Missionary Union-SBC, past president of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, and former first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, insists she is just a plain, vanilla person who happens to be a "communicator of the grassroots level." (Photo by Vance Smith)

## Prison ministry grows out of a father's love

**QUEZALTENANGO, Guatemala (BP)** — In a 6- by 4-foot prison cell in Granja Penal, a prison farm near Quezaltenango, Charles Collins sat on a concrete slab covered with rough handwoven blankets.

For three prisoners clustered around Collins, such slabs serve as their beds each night. Dingy blankets decorated the moldy concrete walls around them. One man told Collins prison officials allow him to sew soccer balls together to earn a small sum to send to his family. The prisoners then listened as the Southern Baptist missionary began to read from his Bible.

The next week, Collins' Bible study mushroomed to 12 prisoner participants; within a month, as attendance passed 40, the gathering was moved to a church building on the prison grounds.

In two months, 25 inmates had completed a course, "Lessons for New Believers," and received their certificates from Jose Angel Samol, Baptist seminary extension director from Guatemala City.

More importantly, the first convert from the Bible study was baptized. Today, Collins reports, someone accepts Christ as personal Savior in almost every service. Professions of faith number 15; baptisms, three.

Family heartbreak first led Collins to the prison. A concerned father, a student in Collins' "Baptist Beliefs and Practices" seminary extension class, asked the missionary to help minister at the prison farm. The man's son was serving time there for a drug conviction. Now the son is part of Collins' Bible study.

## "One ordinary woman can do anything the Lord asks"

By Carol Garrett

**LOS ANGELES (BP)** — She describes herself as "very plain vanilla" in a brown paper wrapper, who is also a "communicator on a grassroots level." But when Christine Gregory begins to speak, plain papers fall away and you're left with a shining treasure of a woman.

And what a communicator she is.

"I'm convinced one's total Christian commitment has to be carried out through many different directions. I can't just tell you what I believe, I've got to show you what I believe," Gregory said recently after addressing the pre-congress leadership conference of the Baptist World Alliance Woman's Department.

The path of doing instead of talking has led "ordinary Plain Jane" Gregory into places of worldwide Baptist service.

The past national president of Woman's Missionary Union, first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and president of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, was selected as the first vice-president for the BWA the first week in July.

A refreshing "plainness" does prevail, when, discussing her impressive list of accomplishments, this animated Virginian seems almost amused at herself.

Gregory said she simply has been willing to be led by God where he's wanted her to go.

Blue eyes sparkling she said, "I've never set a personal goal. God always has worked in my life for me to do what he wanted without my having to set goals. Most of the things I've done I never dreamed I'd do."

Learning to do more than she thought possible, being "better than her best," can be traced, Gregory said, to the level training ground of WMU service.

"Looking back to my earliest involvement in mission action, things like literacy and race relations, I doubt seriously that had I not been involved in WMU I would have been involved in those things," she said.

Her service easily could have gone the route of Junior League or civic clubs in the 1950s, Gregory said, adding although these are good activities, she wouldn't have lived a "total life." She explained, "The fact you have the opportunity to exercise your talents and gifts in WMU is terribly important. And where else is a laywoman going to do it?"

Finding and using gifts are so important to Gregory 1 Corinthians 14:1 springs easily to mind as her favorite Bible verse. "It's about the Holy Spirit... asking him to help you know how to use your gift," she said.

Sometimes being placed in leadership is hard. Being named to the special Peace Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention is one of those times, Gregory said.

"This Peace Committee thing has disturbed me a great deal. The people in the denomination, who are serious, are hanging a tremendous load of responsibility of this committee," she said.

Current labels such as moderate, liberal, conservative and fundamentalist are a real problem, according to Gregory. "I don't like to be tagged, and I was tagged. Nobody's ever asked me

what I believe about the Bible. You get tagged by assumptions," she said, this time with eyes flashing.

Gregory would like to see two major things come out of the committee. "First, it is my hope we will shut out the world and learn to talk to each other in common Christian courtesy," she said. She also hopes to see the committee become a sounding board.

"The Scripture says when you have ought against your brother to go to him with a third person. I hope the 'third person' in the SBC can be this committee," she said.

"Why be a Southern Baptist?" is a question which draws reflex response in authentic Southern drawl. "It's how I was born and bred," Gregory said. "I remain a Southern Baptist today because I believe totally the things which I was taught," she continued.

From this base, Gregory reaches out further through the Baptist World Alliance. They can join people together in fellowship that separate Baptist groups could not bring, she said.

The coming together with other Christians, for Gregory, is the best part of a life spent in Baptist leadership. "The fact that you come in contact with all kinds of people, and your common bond is Jesus Christ; there is nothing more special," she said.

"The fact I've been able to do all the things I've done in my lifetime makes you absolutely sure that just one ordinary woman can do anything the Lord asks."

Garrett writes for WMU, SBC.

## Promoters try gambling on forbidden Indian lands

**WASHINGTON (BP)** — Without federal legislation to clarify regulation of gambling on Indian lands, the nation's gambling industry may have found a way to circumvent state laws prohibiting various forms of gambling, a Southern Baptist anti-gambling expert has warned.

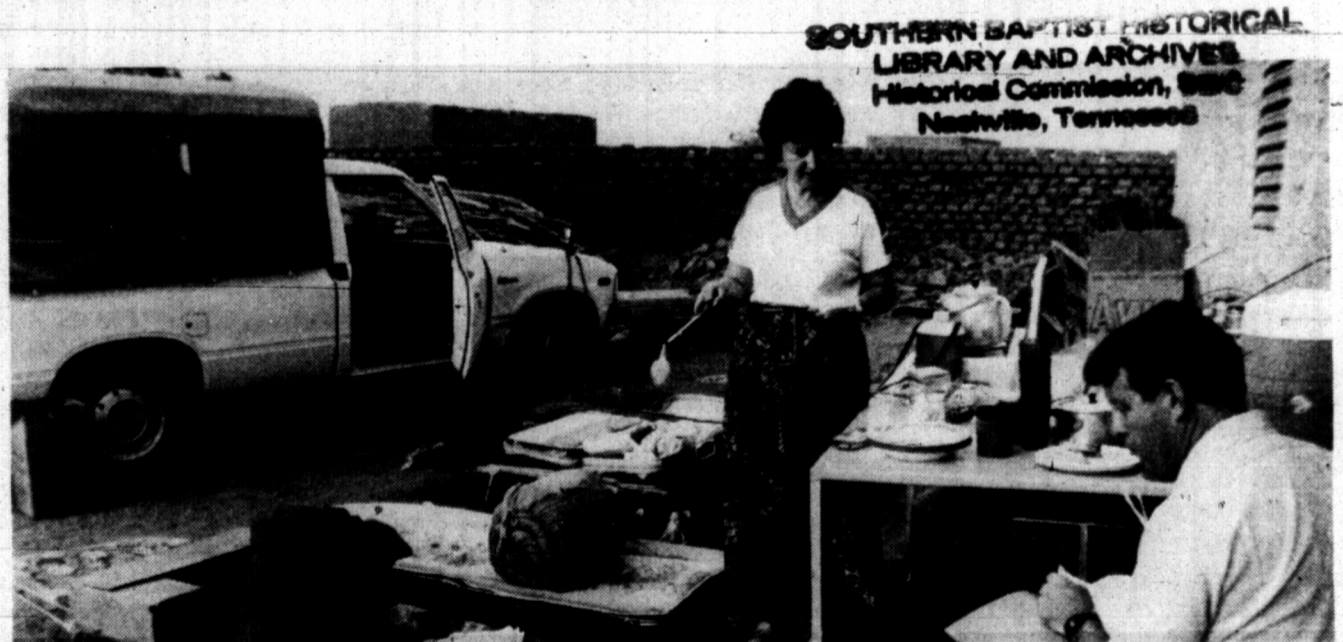
Larry Braidfoot of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission said if such legislation is not enacted, Southern Baptists and others "stand to lose the results of our successful resistance to the spread of the gambling industry."

Several pieces of legislation now pending in Congress would establish federal guidelines regulated gambling on Indian lands.

Promoters of dog racing and jai alai

are attempting to establish gambling operations on Indian lands in New Mexico and Arizona, even though those activities are forbidden by state law. The promoters are hoping to build on the widespread growth of high-stakes bingo on Indian lands after permission for such gambling was granted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Braidfoot urged Southern Baptists to register their concern with members of the two committees with jurisdiction: the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, chaired by Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., and the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, chaired by Sen. Mark Andrews, R-N.D.



## On the road in Mali

Beverly Coad cooks breakfast while her husband, Norman, finalizes his plans for the day as they travel through Mali's fifth region smoothing the way for distribution of 6,000 tons of grain. Although they sometimes stay in hotels, the Southern Baptist

missionaries often camp in the courtyards of local pastors who are helping with the grain distribution. Here in Koro, the pastor has built a couple of rooms especially for the use of visiting missionaries. (BP) PHOTO By Joanna Pinneo

# Editorials..... by don mcgregor

## New expanded annuity plan

Mississippi Baptists are adept at leading the way in a great many areas, and they are leading the way again in signing up for the new expanded Church Annuity Plan that is to go into effect in 1988.

The first church in the Southern Baptist Convention to sign up for its entire paid staff was Harrisburg in Tupelo. The first association in the Southern Baptist Convention to sign up 100 percent of the churches was Sharkey-Issaquena.

All of this speaks eloquently of the ability of Mississippi churches to look into the future and take action to meet it and of the leadership ability of Bill Sellers, the annuity representative in Mississippi.

Of course, the Baptist Record knew that Sellers would excel in organizing annuity work in the state, for he formerly was business manager for the Baptist Record, and in that capacity handled circulation promotion.

The Expanded Church Annuity Plan, simply stated, will provide increased annuity benefits for those who participate in its program. It will go into effect on Jan. 1, 1988; but Mississippi is being used as a pilot state, and churches already are signing up.

When the Expanded plan goes into effect on Jan. 1, 1988, all retirement contributions made under other plans will continue to accumulate as part of the new expanded plan.

The basis for the Expanded Church Annuity Plan is that contributions to the individual's retirement will be coming from three sources. The participant will contribute, the church will contribute, and the state conven-

tion will contribute.

The church must decide to enter the plan; and when it has, the individual must decide what his level of contributions will be. Whatever it is, the church will contribute twice as much as the member, up to 10 percent of his pay. If the church decides to do so, it may make the member's contribution also. Then the state convention will contribute one-half as much as the church contributes for its member or members up to \$420 per year for each participant. Half of what the state convention contributes will go toward funding the protection section, which provides disability insurance and survivors' benefits.

Thus, on some salary scales, as much as about 17 percent of the salary could be going into an annuity program with only 5 percent of it coming from the individual.

In the new Expanded Church Annuity Plan it is not only ministerial staff members who will be eligible for participation. Anyone who serves as a paid minister will be able to participate; and, in addition, anyone who is working at least 20 hours per week for the church on a paid basis and who has had three years of service with a church or Southern Baptist organization will be eligible.

Mississippi and the Southern Baptist Convention need this plan for the benefit of those who will serve the

churches in the future. Many hundreds in Mississippi and thousands across the nation have retired without adequate income for living, and nothing can be done about that now. Something can be done now, however, about taking steps to correct that situation for the years ahead.

The key is church participation. The minister or staff member cannot participate unless the church participates. Thus every church should take steps to be a part of this expanded new plan whether it has a pastor or not, or if it has one, whether or not he chooses to participate. As pastors move from church to church they need to be assured that their annuity programs will continue to be effective.

Southern Baptists are learning more all along as to how to fund their annuity programs. The plans keep changing, but the changes are all for the better. The embryonic plans which are serving many annuitants at this time were the best that were available in their day but are woefully inadequate for this time of inflated living. But there is no way of correcting that.

What we can do is take care of the future. This new plan is designed to meet inflated living. It is a percentage program that will rise with inflation.

Church members, finance committee members, deacons, this is your decision. You are carrying the ball in this situation, whether you want to or



not. You will be making a decision. You can't help but decide whether you want to be in this program or whether you don't.

Regardless of what you might feel about it individually, you must give consideration to the fact that to fail to participate now would be a short-sighted look into the future.

We must provide for a life of freedom from fear for those who give their lives to minister among us and then must turn over the mantle to

other younger persons who are coming along.

We cannot afford to fail them. To do so would be to fail to support the work of the Lord in his churches.

More and more will be heard about this new plan. Beginning on Sept. 1, material will be mailed to every pastor in the state. Additional mailings will be made. There will be opportunities to sign up for participation. The wise church and the wise staff member will do so.

## Guest opinion . . .

## "The retirement program of the SBC Annuity Board"

By Larry W. Fields

Los Angeles Dodgers' baseball manager, Tommy Lasorda, states that he is so loyal to the Dodger organization that when he bleeds, he bleeds Dodger blue. I feel the same way about my Southern Baptist heritage. All six of my family members, including both parents, are graduates of Southern Baptist colleges. Four of us, including my father, who is a retired Baptist minister, are graduates of Southern Baptist seminaries. Few families appreciate a Baptist heritage as much as we do.

I am extremely thankful for the principles and Biblical doctrines of our Baptist faith, including a strong belief in the local autonomy of the church. Southern Baptist churches do not have a bishop or a presbytery (governing body) dictating to our church what must be done. We believe in a congregational form of church government, under the leadership of God. However, when responsibilities are overlooked, there can be a disadvantage to our system of congregational church government.

Many denominations require that their member churches provide adequately for the retirement income of their church personnel. There is no such requirement in the Southern

Baptist Convention. It is my opinion that many Southern Baptist churches are doing a poor job of providing adequately for their church personnel because they are not informed and are not sensitive about their church personnel's needs. It is not because of selfishness or any other deliberate reason.

There is a clear Biblical basis for the financial support of church employees. In I Tim. 5:17-18, Paul writes, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of a double honor, especially they who labor in the Word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, 'thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn.' And, the laborer is worthy of his reward."

Another example is Gal. 6:6 where Paul states, "The man who is being taught the Christian message should share all good things he has with his teacher."

There are several other verses in scripture which indicate the responsibility of the church to provide adequately for its servants. Southern Baptist churches have improved in many areas concerning adequate income and benefits, not only for pastors and ministerial staff members, but also for clerical and

janitorial workers. In addition to the typical salary, benefits, and church-related expenses, the church is also responsible for providing adequate retirement income for all church personnel.

I have been very fortunate in that the churches where I have served have always provided retirement income for their pastor. Unfortunately, not all churches have been this generous and supportive. As a result, we have many men and women church staff members retiring today who have severe financial burdens facing them, some, after having served in Southern Baptist churches for as many as 40 or 50 years. It is a sad commentary that oversight and neglect would cause retired ministers and church staff personnel such struggle in their sunset years.

In response to this need in our convention, and after careful study by a special committee, which consisted of representatives from several states, the Annuity Board has proposed a new retirement program which can be adopted by any size church. Church members, particularly the personnel committee, if there is one, and the deacons, and other church leaders should become better informed about

assisting their pastor and staff members in adequate retirement income planning. Accepting this new plan should be encouraged.

In March of 1985, the Harrisburg Baptist Church of Tupelo, Miss., approved a very important recommendation for the ministerial and non-ministerial staff members of the church. They voted to approve the church's participation in the new 1988 retirement program for the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. This included 13 staff members. Our retirement fund in the annual budget increased from \$9,000 to \$17,000 in order to include all staff members in retirement planning. This recommendation, after being carefully explained by several of our lay leaders, was unanimously adopted by our church.

We were later informed by Bill Sellers, the Annuity Board Representative for the Mississippi Baptist Convention, that Harrisburg Baptist Church was the first Southern Baptist church in the convention to approve the new retirement program for both ministerial and non-ministerial personnel. I am deeply thankful to the Lord for this progressive attitude and

(Continued on page 4)

### The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

515 Mississippi Street

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, Miss. 39205

Don McGregor Editor

Tim Nicholas Associate Editor

Anne McWilliams Assistant

Editor

Evelyn Keyes Advertising

Coordinator

Florence Larrimore Editorial

Assistant

Renee Walley Circulation

Assistant

Betty Anne Bailey Financial

Records

Gail Wood Computer Operator

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Ferrell O. Cork, Jr., Aberdeen; Marcus Finch, Meridian; Bruce Hill, Lexington, vice-chairman; Owen Lusk, Columbia; Robert H. Jackson, Brandon; Dan Thompson, Harperville, chairman. Ex officio, Evelyn Keyes, Jackson; secretary.

Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance.

Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Volume 109

Number 27

# The Baptist Record

## SBC Peace Committee to focus on theology

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The 22-member peace committee charged with resolving the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention will begin its work by addressing theological issues and differences, according to chairman Charles Fuller. The committee also elected Mississippi's convention president Charles Pickering, as vice chairman.

Fuller, pastor of First Church, Roanoke, Va., told Baptist Press 17 of the 22 persons named to the committee attended an organizational meeting in Nashville Aug. 5-6, aimed at letting committee members get acquainted and setting the course for future work.

"When we began we reviewed the assignment given to us by the convention," he said, noting the 1985 annual meeting of the SBC in Dallas created the committee to "seek to determine the sources of the controversies in our convention and make findings and recommendations regarding these controversies."

By Dan Martin

"I asked each committee member to share individually the general goals they believe the committee can and should seek to establish, and what they believe this committee can and should seek to accomplish. I also asked each of them to tell why they had agreed to serve," Fuller said. "It was my attempt to try to jell the group into a unit and a fellowship."

Fuller said the committee decided to begin its work by dealing with theological issues and differences. "The committee concluded that political and structural problems invariably related to theological issues. Therefore, that is where the committee wants to begin."

"The agenda for the next meeting (scheduled in Nashville in early October) will begin focusing on an analysis and definition of the theological issues which must be discussed and confronted before we can pursue any other matter," he said. Fuller added committee members

are "not oblivious" to the political and structural dimensions of the controversy, but said they "relate to theological differences. If you say the problem is political, you then stop one step short (of the problem)."

The committee decided, the chairman said, to begin "where the problems lie and work toward a solution," rather than seeking a solution "and working back to the causes."

He said the committee was unanimous in its decision to begin by dealing with theology. "There may have been different degrees of unanimity, but when we finally came to the point where we said the problem is theological, there was not a single protest about it," he said.

He said each committee member has been asked to come to the October meeting "prepared to present their own interpretation of what these theological issues are."

The next meeting also will focus on (Continued on page 5)

## Laos asks Baptists to help with development

VIENTIANE, Laos (BP) — The government of Laos has invited Southern Baptists to help with long-term development but stopped short of saying a missionary could live in the country.

The request came in July to Murphy Terry, Southern Baptist associate area director for south and southeast Asia, who talked in Laos with officials in the offices of planning, health, agriculture, and foreign affairs.

"There's enough social need in the country that we don't have to apologize" for agreeing to do just development work, Terry said. "In addition, we feel we can encourage the Lao evangelical church."

Terry, a former Southern Baptist missionary to Laos, will propose to strategists at the Foreign Mission Board a well-defined, three- to five-year plan. It will fit into a larger

development proposal engineered by UNICEF (A United Nations Agency) outlining possibilities for international agencies in the country.

"I felt they (government officials) were saying 'We're open to your involvement in the country, but we're open at an arm's length,'" Terry explained. He said the officials showed him the UNICEF project proposal manual and wanted him to say how Southern Baptists would help.

But they would not promise Southern Baptists could maintain missionary presence in the country. The government grants such liberty only to those who have been observed for some time, he was told. "He (the official) was very friendly about it. He smiled and said that would come after a period of observation of our work and our behavior in relation-

(Continued on page 5)

## Home Board asks study of women's ordination

By Jim Newton

ATLANTA (BP) — After debating the issue of women's ordination for more than an hour, directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board asked for appointment of a special committee to develop guidelines concerning ordination for use in the appointment of missionaries.

The special committee was requested by the board's personnel committee, which on the previous day voted eight to seven against recommending appointment of an ordained woman to do work at Yale University.

The full board, however, reversed the personnel committee's decision, voting 37-34 to accept a minority committee request that Janet Faye Fuller be appointed to the post at Yale and four other campuses in the New Haven, Conn., area.

Fuller, 29-year-old daughter of foreign missionaries Wayne and Frances Fuller of Lebanon, has been doing student work on the Yale campus for the past six years, first as a volunteer and for the past two years as a HMB US-2 missionary.

Her two years of US-2 service ended in August, and the Baptist Convention of New England has requested her employment be continued in a different category as student work missionary. It was not a new appointment, but rather a reclassification of missionary status, according to HMB officials.

She was one of 40 missionaries and missionary associates appointed for service in 15 states by the board during its summer meeting, but the only one whose appointment prompted extended debate by board members.

In other major actions, the directors approved allocations totalling \$33.5 million for use of the 1986 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, and elected Larry Rose, currently director of the Center for Urban Studies in Nashville, as associate director of the board's metropolitan missions department.

Acting on several proposals from its church loans committee, the board also authorized a \$600,000 loan to help

(Continued on page 5)

## Baptist Sunday School Board adopts \$159 million budget

By Linda Lawson

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—A 1985-86 budget of \$159.3 million, a Broadman book publishing statement, and a pledge of support for the Southern Baptist Convention peace committee were adopted by trustees of the Sunday School Board meeting at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center Aug. 1-2.

In another action, Bill Banks, a 12-year employee of the board, was elected to direct the special ministries department, a new department authorized by the trustees in February.

Banks, 38, has been design and process specialist in the Bible teaching division and will assume his new post Oct. 1. The special ministries department includes language publishing, special education, Bible correspondence, and black church development.

The 1985-86 budget presented by Jerry Lee, of First Church, Jackson, Miss., represents an increase of approximately \$10 million over the projected 1984-85 income of \$149.5 million.

The budget was adopted after a report by E. V. King, vice-president for finance, showing income for the first nine months of 1984-85 was \$106.7 million, which was below budget by \$7.2 million but above last year by \$5.5 million. King said the board's financial position remains strong because product costs and operating expenses have been kept \$5.2 million below budget.

The Broadman book publishing statement was adopted in response to a motion at the February 1985 meeting by Larry Holly, a layman from Beaumont, Tex., calling for the board to review all Broadman books in light of the "Baptist Faith and Message" and to remove any from publication that fail to meet these guidelines.

The statement was adopted with no opposition after a brief discussion. It notes Broadman books are published for a general Christian market and also states: "All books are written by devout, Bible-believing Christians who affirm their confidence in the inspiration and authority of Holy Scripture. The editorial guideline in doctrinal matters is the 'Baptist Faith and Message.' Within this guideline, Broadman publishes books which reflect a wide range of viewpoints and interpretations."

Sunday School Board President Lloyd Elder said a representative selection of the 875 Broadman books in print had been reviewed. "We discovered Broadman Press is right in the mainstream of Southern Baptists," he said.

The pledge of support for the 22-member SBC special committee authorized by messengers to the 1985 convention in Dallas to seek solutions to the controversy in the denomination was approved unanimously without debate.

The statement affirms the role of

the committee, invites the committee to review the work of the board and supports the call to all Southern Baptists to exercise restraint and refrain from divisive comments while the committee works.

Elder reported he had conducted a careful investigation into questions raised earlier this year about a commentary on Joshua written by board employee Trent C. Butler before his employment at the board and publish-

(Continued on page 5)

## Responsibilities, titles changed for three Baptist Record staffers

Three title changes have been experienced at the Baptist Record recently.

Anne McWilliams, veteran of 33 years with the Baptist Record, has had a title change from editorial associate to assistant editor. This involves additional responsibilities, for Mrs. McWilliams has taken on the total responsibility of the layout of the Baptist Record every week. She also continues to write the weekly column, "Faces and Places," which has proved to be a very popular feature of the Baptist Record. In addition to this she handles a wide variety of subject matter in feature story writing and covers

stories for the Baptist Record all across the state.

Because of the extremely heavy load placed on Mrs. McWilliams with the layout responsibilities, her former involvement in writing news of local churches across the state has been shifted to Florence Larrimore. Again, there is a title change, and Mrs. Larrimore's title has been changed from secretary-proof reader to editorial assistant. She continues to handle all galley proof reading for the Baptist Record, to do the photo finishing in the paper's dark room, and to assist Associate Editor Tim Nicholas in public relations functions.

The third title change has been for

Evelyn Keyes, as hers has changed from secretary to advertising coordinator. Her duties are the same as before. She continues to handle all advertising responsibilities and to be the coordinator of the work involving the business functions of the Baptist Record. As time is available, she also continues to serve as secretary for the editor and as his assistant in administrative matters.

In addition to Editor Don McGregor, others in the Baptist Record office include Renee Walley, circulation assistant; Betty Anne Bailey, financial records clerk; and Gail Wood, computer operator.

# "We've got 22 who . . . cover the waterfront"

## 'Peace' chairman optimistic

By Julian H. Pentecost  
and Thomas E. Miller

ROANOKE, Va. (BP) — "I would have not accepted the assignment if I believed it were an exercise in futility," said Charles Fuller. "I believe God wants to preserve and use Southern Baptists. I think we ought to give him every chance to accomplish that."

Fuller, pastor of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., was elected at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas to chair, a 22-member committee assigned to "determine the sources of the controversies in our denomination, and make findings and recommendations regarding those controversies."

The committee held its first meeting in Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 5-6.

"People want peace," said Fuller. "I am not oblivious to difficulties in bringing these people together, but I hear Baptists saying, 'Before God, let's find a place where we can come together.' I believe there is basis for optimism."

"In simplest terms," he said, "I believe the source of controversy is the diversity that always has been and always will be, and the question of how much diversity we can have and at the same time have a bona fide fellowship. How much diversity can we have and still have conviction and community, a sense of togetherness?"

Fuller declared his intention to closet the committee for some of its meetings and to put some distance between the committee and the denomination's professional executive leadership.

"We won't meet in Nashville every time. Some geographic diversity is desirable, and we need to separate ourselves from some possible influences. We are a committee of the convention. The committee needs to reflect its independence."

The first session will be closed to all outsiders, he said, adding, "I just feel that in deference to the committee I must give them the chance to get to know one another and to speak to the question of press representation." Fuller said, "It is possible the committee may say, 'We think we ought to have someone (representing Baptist Press) in here.' But I cannot take it upon myself to assume that initiative."

"It would be a mistake for all sessions to be executive," said Fuller. "The convention authorized the committee and (the constituency) needs to be aware something is going on. Southern Baptists have a right to know what is going on in the committee. But there will be times we need to be away from Nashville where we can be cloistered, when we need several days to thrash things out."

Fuller said he will ask the committee to let him respond to Baptist Press questions and issue a report after the August meeting. He also is required, by convention action to report to the Executive Committee in September, February, and June, and to the convention when it meets in Atlanta.

A recent letter by Fuller to 210 convention executives and leaders requesting restraint in public comments brought numbers of responses, some

cautious and limiting.

"I interpret the convention's call for restraint and refraining from divisive action and comments as an attempt to lower the profile of controversy. It is not an attempt to muzzle or throttle expression of conviction. In fact, to do so would be the very antithesis of what we are as Baptists," said Fuller.

"But some are only too willing to start a fight. The presidents (of the state conventions) have affirmed the principle of restraint with the reservation to speak out when it is considered essential. Only the individual can make the decision. The request does not ask one to say, 'I'll never open my mouth,' but to be reasonable."

Fuller said when the committee meets "each member will be asked to answer the question, 'Why did I accept this responsibility?' I want to know the depth of commitment to the task." "My objective for the first meeting is for the committee members to hear one another and understand one another. I will not try to extract opinions. That won't be necessary. The people on this committee will be willing to speak. But when we realize we are a group we will work together."

Fuller said, "One thing I will do is ask persons on opposite sides to interpret what the other is saying. We will try to work through the posture of the committee becoming a group. We will attempt to discover within the committee what we are saying."

"We will work toward becoming an entity. We won't tackle most of the agenda at the first meeting," he said, adding that 18 of the 22 members are expected in Nashville.

Commenting on his own understanding of the committee assignment, Fuller said, "We are not an inquisition committee. We have a trustee process and structure (for operating institutions and agencies) and we ought to use it. If we create another process we do serious damage."

He said he first planned to "have a meeting on the heels of the convention, if not in Dallas, but that was before Wednesday afternoon and night. At that time I realized we needed some distance and perspective."

He was referring to bitter controversy which erupted in the convention Wednesday and Thursday in which some of the members of the Peace Committee were directly involved.

Commenting on his view of conditions in the denomination, Fuller said, "I have opted not to use the term division, but divisive. Division has a note of finality. This is not to gloss over the differences people have but to identify what we are dealing with. How much diversity can we have and still have a legitimate fellowship and have confidence and conviction about what we are doing?"

"This is my attempt to label what we are doing," he said. "To find a new center. I don't really know if it is a new center or a proper definition of center. Some say the moderate position is the center, but that is not the true center. And the fundamental center is not the true center. The true center is where we keep faith with what we have been historically."

Fuller said: "As to finding the sources of conflict in the convention, I have interpreted 'sources' not so much to pinpoint persons, but to identify what are the irritants, the causes of divisiveness, rather than labeling persons, or this department, or this school."

"We've got 22 people who pretty well cover the waterfront. They can tell us what are the questions and controversies we want to see dealt with," he added.

Pentecost is editor and Miller is associate editor of the Religious Herald, newsjournal of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. This story was adapted from the Aug. 1 issue of the Religious Herald.

## Jimmy Dunn will lead discipleship training

Jimmy Dunn, a Starkville native, and graduate of Mississippi State University, will be guest speaker at a



Dunn

specialized Church Training conference, Sept. 10, at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

Dunn, minister of education at First Church, Nashville, will lead the conference on "How to Build a Strong Discipleship Training Program," 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The meeting, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Training Department,

Mose Dangerfield, director, is limiting participation to the first 50 registrants.

A fee of \$10 will cover the cost of a meal and study course books. Registration must be received on Friday Sept. 6. Last minute registrants need to check with the MBCB program Director's office for availability of space. Mail registration to Program Director's office, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205.

This is one of a series of key leadership seminars scheduled throughout 1985. The next in the series is sponsored by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department, entitled "The First Two Years, a Pastor's Guide."

## New Beginnings welcomes singles

Every Saturday at 6 p.m., the doors are opened and warm welcomes are inside at the New Beginnings Place, West 5th Street, in Long Beach. The New Beginnings Place is a former residence purchased by First Church, Long Beach, several years ago and is located immediately across from the church sanctuary.

The hospitality chairman tags the newest singles with a new penny which signifies to the others to make extra efforts to put that person at ease.

Calendars are mailed to participants each month detailing the months activities — a birthday party the first Saturday of each month, honors that month's birthdays . . . the fourth Saturday is covered dish Saturday and always draws a big crowd. There is always something going on, though, and most singles don't want to miss out on the fun. The New Beginnings Place . . . A place for singles — divorced, widowed, or never married, to make a new beginning, and open to all coast singles.

# The SBC retirement program

(Continued from page 2)

positive spirit on the part of our congregation.

There were a number of factors that led to the unanimous approval of this recommendation and the positive and progressive spirit of our people:

1. There was a desire by our people to assure a decent retirement income for church employees. There was a growing realization among our people that social security benefits are not enough, nor were they ever intended to be.

2. Church members were attracted to the idea for a giving incentive for employees to use their own salary as a part of their retirement income. A part of the plan includes the understanding that the employee will contribute, out of his or her own salary, one-half of what the church gives to the retirement fund.

3. Church members liked the idea that certain convention funds, beginning in 1988, would be coming back to the church as the Convention Board will contribute half of what the church contributes up to a maximum of \$420 per year per person. Several of our members stated that this was a way that some of the funds that we contribute through the Cooperative Program would be coming back to support our own staff personnel.

4. There was a general feeling among our members that each church is responsible to its salaried employees. This responsibility involves not only adequate salary, insurance, and additional fringe benefits, but also helps that employee

be guaranteed a decent and happy retirement.

I am sure that other Southern Baptist churches feel the same way that our church feels. We do not have, nor do we need, and nor do we want, a bishop or denominational, governmental committee telling us what we have to do. We do, however, have a Biblical mandate and an important responsibility to help our ministers and church staff personnel have adequate salary, benefits, and appropriate retirement income.

The Scripture teaches that, "the elders who do good work as leaders should be worthy of receiving double pay, especially those who work at preaching and teaching." (I Timothy 5:17). Also, "Do you not know that there are those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel." (I Corinthians 9:13-14). It is my belief, once church members become informed, that the majority of our churches will willingly and voluntarily approve the 1988 retirement plan and help guarantee a bright future for their church personnel.

When this is done, I can predict that many years into the future retired men and women will daily thank God for the generosity, love, and progressive spirit of church leaders who led their church to plan adequately for their retirement years.

Church leaders will soon be receiving information about the new retirement plan. Designed for modern times, this retirement plan will give

(Continued on page 5)

## CLASSIFIED

**GROUPS OF 12 OR MORE:**  
Famous GREAT PASSION PLAY package includes \$7.50 tickets, lodging, swimming, and meals at Keller's Country Dorm Resort; Eureka Springs, Arkansas for just \$20 each! Call 501/253-8418 today!

**BUSINESS MANAGER WANTED**  
for Alaska Baptist Convention. BA in business Administration and CPA preferred. Must be devout churchman. Contact John Allen, Alaska Baptist Convention, 1750 O'Malley Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99516, (907) 344-9627.

**FOR SALE: KIMBALL GRAND PETITE PIANO, 4'6", \$3495.00.**  
Bought new 1979. FBC, Lyman (601) 832-2933.

**FOR SALE: 25 PADDED PEWS.**  
Good condition. Ephesus Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Box 92-7, Forest, MS 39074 (601) 469-3795.

**FOR SALE: LADIES 5.7 mm DIAMOND RING (gift to church).**  
Appraised \$1,200.00. Asking \$1,000.00. Faith Baptist Church, Florence (601) 845-8561.

# Home Mission Board asks for study of ordination

(Continued from page 3)

the financially-troubled Baptist General Convention of Colorado, took additional steps toward offering the sale of \$5 million in investment certificates starting in October, and adjusted interest rates on church loans to 13.75 percent with three points discounts on the first \$200,000 and one point discount on funds beyond \$200,000.

In remarks to the board, Home Mission Board President William G. Tanner pledged support for the 22-member "Peace Committee" appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas to "determine the sources of controversy" in the SBC and bring recommendations aimed at reconciliation.

Debate later in the meeting on women's ordination was calm and orderly, according to several observers.

The issue was raised by the board's personnel committee which asked the board's chairman to appoint a special committee to develop guidelines concerning ordination for the committee to use in reviewing missionary candidates' files.

Although the motion first asked that the study committee deal with "women's ordination," board members voted 40 to 25 to delete the word "women's" and deal with ordination generally.

A substitute motion asking the board abide by its current policy was rejected by a vote of 37-31.

In the last 16 months, directors

twice have reaffirmed the current policy which does not list ordination as a qualification for missionary appointment, maintaining ordination is a matter for the local church to determine.

In March of this year, HMB directors voted 39-32 to reaffirm this policy, rejecting a proposal similar to the one adopted in July asking for a committee to study the entire issue and recommend appropriate action next March.

In the July meeting, the directors voted 37 to 31 against reaffirming its current policy and 57 to 8 to appoint the study committee.

The minority report from the personnel committee asking that Fuller be appointed as a missionary was brought by T. L. McSwain, pastor of Hurstborne Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky.

McSwain said he made the motion because of complaints in previous board meetings from members who felt decisions were made in smaller committees without giving all board members an opportunity for participation in the decisions.

McSwain described Fuller's qualifications for appointment as "absolutely impeccable." He added that ordination was the only possible reason for declining her appointment.

McSwain said Fuller feels a strong call to missions and to student work, but has no desire to be pastor of a church. She was ordained in 1981 by Trinity Baptist Church, New Haven, at the request of Yale, which requires ordination for all chaplains on

campus.

McSwain opposed ordination of women for the pastorate, but supported Fuller's unique situation, because it would be wrong to deny her appointment and "blackball" her ministry.

Johnny Jackson, pastor of Forest Highlands Baptist Church, Little Rock, Ark., opposed Fuller's appointment, saying the real issue is not her qualifications or Yale's requirements, but going against wishes of the vast majority of Southern Baptists who oppose use of Cooperative Program money to support an ordained woman.

Lawanna McIver of Dallas said she felt the personnel committee was out of order in rejecting Fuller's candidate file when board policy clearly stated that ordination is not a criteria for missionary appointment.

A flurry of motions were considered by the board, including a motion to table Fuller's appointment until after the study committee completed its work. The motion to table barely lost 35 to 34.

Another motion which would have continued Fuller's current US-2 status for another year, rather than reclassifying her as an appointed missionary, lost 40 to 24.

Board members expressed appreciation to chairman Travis Wigington, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Norman, Okla., for his fair and impartial presiding and pledged to pray for Wigington as he appoints members to the study committee.

Jim Newton writes for the Home Mission Board.

## Southern Baptist Peace Committee will focus on theology issues

(Continued from page 3)

allowing the five absent members an opportunity "to do some of what we have already done . . . to allow them to come up to speed," he said, adding the five "were not present because of unavoidable conflicts in schedule."

SBC President Charles Stanley, pastor of First Church, Atlanta, was scheduled to attend, but had to cancel "at the last minute" because of a "family emergency," Fuller said.

Others not present were former SBC President Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Houston; Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla., and Bill Crews, pastor of Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church, Riverside, Calif.

All, Fuller said, attempted to resolve schedule conflicts but were unable to do so.

The committee met in "executive session," but adopted a policy statement regarding relationship to the media. Fuller said the action which created the committee gave it the privilege to conduct business "in open sessions . . ." but specified it may hold public hearings or may meet in "executive session."

Fuller explained the "committee feels executive sessions might be more necessary in the early stages. We feel openness is something for which we are responsible but sense executive sessions allow us to be free with ourselves without concern anyone might be there who might cramp any individual's freedom."

In other action the committee:

Elected Charles Pickering, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and a Laurel attorney, vice-chairman. Pickering was one of the state convention presidents who presented the motion calling for creation of the committee.

—Named a three-member subcommittee—Pickering, Daniel Vestal, pastor of First Baptist Church, Midland, Texas, and John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.—to study all correspondence and "determine when and where suggestions and recommendations should be placed on the agenda." Fuller also will serve with the subcommittee.

—Decided to adopt "Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee" as its official name.

Present, in addition to Fuller, Pickering, Sullivan and Vestal, were

Harmon Born, Rex, Ga.; Doyle E. Carlton Jr., Wauchula, Fla.; Jodi Chapman, Wichita Falls, Texas; Robert Cuttino, Lancaster, S.C.; Christine Gregory, Danville, Va.;

William E. Hull, Shreveport, La.; Herschel Hobbs, Oklahoma City; Albert McClellan, Nashville, Tenn.; William Poe, Charlotte, N. C.; Ray Roberts, Asheville, N.C.; Cecil Sherman, Fort Worth, Texas; Jerry Vines, Jacksonville, Fla.; and Winfred Moore, Amarillo, Texas.

## The retirement program . . .

(Continued from page 4)

assurance to church personnel that adequate income will be available in future years.

My church has already made a positive commitment and backed it up with a large increase in the retirement section of our budget. What will your church do?

Larry W. Fields is pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo.

## Laos asks for help

(Continued from page 3)

ship to those programs," Terry said.

Terry's trip to Laos was sponsored by the nonaligned, U.S.-based Indochina Project of the Center for International Policy. He accompanied Murray Hiebert, a former Mennonite Central Committee representative to Laos. Hiebert is co-director of the Indochina Project.

With Laotian officials, Terry and Hiebert visited a site where the government hopes to build an agriculture school and a project to convert refuse from Vientiane into

compost for farming. They also observed community health programs.

Terry will propose Southern Baptists set up an easy-to-monitor, high-visibility project around Vientiane to "give us an opportunity to get better acquainted with them while they get acquainted with us." The next step could be a more comprehensive project in a rural area.

As a missionary evangelist, Terry worked in cooperation with Lao evangelicals until furlough in 1974.

Croll writes for FMB.

## SS Board adopts budget

(Continued from page 3)

ed by Word Publishers. Questions were raised in a letter to Elder and copies of a second letter were sent to all trustees by Paige Patterson, president of the Criswell Center for Bible Studies, Dallas.

Elder said, while he disagreed with some statements in the book, Butler has conducted all of his work at the Sunday School Board within the guidelines of the "Baptist Faith and Message." "I pursued this matter not only to satisfy concerns of Brother Paige Patterson but also my own. Butler has rendered excellent service to the Sunday School Board. I am confident that he will continue to make a

superb contribution," said Elder.

Linda Lawson writes for the Sunday School Board.

### CHURCH STEEPLES

- BAPTISTRIES
- WALL CROSSES
- BAPTISTRY WATER HEATERS

COLONIAL CONTEMPORARY AND MODERN DESIGNS  
ERECTOR WITH COMPANY  
CRANES AND CREWS AVAILABLE  
WRITE OR CALL FOR COLOR  
LITERATURE AND PROPOSALS

TOLL FREE  
**800-241-3152**

IN GEORGIA CALL  
COLLECT  
404-993-9960

GLASSTECH PLASTICS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 910  
ROSWELL, GA. 30077

Manufacturing Fine Church Products  
for 20 YEARS

1835

**First Baptist Church**  
Louisville, Mississippi

1985

## Sesquicentennial Celebration Founder's Day, Sunday, August 25

10:00 a.m. — Worship Service and Dinner on the Ground  
2:00 P.M. — "A Steeple in Our Midst"

Drama depicting the life history of our church for the past 150 years.  
Written by Mrs. Tom Majure and directed by Dan Curran

**Come join in this all day celebration with former members, former pastors, and special guests.  
The public is cordially invited to all events!**

## Uniquely You

Are you expressing the Uniqueness of who God designed you to be?

Inner and Outer Appearance Enhancement Seminars  
Based on the book (found in most Christian Book Stores)

**"UNIQUELY YOU" by BETTY NETHERY**  
Presented by SALLY STEVENS,

the only Mississippi Consultant trained extensively by Betty Nethery in Dallas, Texas as a Christian Image and Wardrobe Specialist, make-up artist and the exciting Twelve Month Color Season to put you in the right colors — using the Munsell Color Value and Chroma chart to evaluate your skin, hair and eyes.

Available to your church groups

**\*Image programs for men and women,  
\*Special programs to enhance the Christian self-worth and poise of teens and women over 40 who are entering new phases in their lives.**

For information phone (601) 854-8914

# Opportunity for investment

## (with sure returns)

By Marjean Patterson

These are the days of IRAs, Keoghs, and other investments which promise us handsome returns.

We Mississippi Baptists have before us the opportunity for investments with sure returns! Though I can't accurately predict the rate of returns, I can guarantee spiritual blessings and multiple benefits!

What is this wonder-working opportunity? Why, participating in the State Mission Season of Prayer during Sept. 8-11.

"Participation" means a lot of different things to me. First of all, I can guarantee you, if you learn something in September concerning the allocations in our State Mission Season of Prayer emphasis, you'll be led to invest something of yourself in state missions.

Now I'm talking about the Margaret Lackey Offering for State Missions to be sure; but there's much more to invest.

How about our prayer support? Is there a person involved vocationally in missions at any level who does not

yearn for prayer support from his constituents?

How about our investments of awareness and sympathetic understanding?

Then, of course, our investments come to a central focus as we participate financially in our state missions program.

Awareness materials have been mailed to pastors and to church WMU and Brotherhood directors.

"Mississippi — Compelled by Christ's Love" is the theme for our special prayer emphasis in September. Recipients of the Margaret Lackey Offering include New Missions, Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Camp Garaywa, Disaster Relief, special ethnic work, Parchman ministry, and church building/pastoral aid.

Let's all plan to make a safe investment in an opportunity which will be certain to bring us many returns.

Marjean Patterson is director of Mississippi Women's Missionary Union.



Hazel (Mrs. Ray) Garrett designed and made a cross-stitch sampler in celebration of First Baptist Church, Louisville's 150th anniversary. Around the edge she listed names of the church's pastors. (Through genealogical research, she has found that she has a family connection with the first pastor, Silas Dobbs, whom the church called in 1835.) In the center she stitched Ephesians 2:21-22 NIV, between the dates 1835 and 1985. Below that are the log building of Hepsibah, as the church was known then, and the building now.

## Over 150 years

# First, Louisville, looks backward

By Anne W. McWilliams

"Is it in accordance with the character of a member of a Baptist church to be in a grocery drinking intoxicating liquors even moderately?" In answer to this question, it was resolved in the January 1845 conference of First Baptist Church, Louisville, Mississippi, that "it is inconsistent with the character of a Christian and we conceive it disorderly and that who ever does so ought to be dealt with."

Members of the church in those days were not only called to account for being intoxicated. They had to answer for such things as telling falsehoods, using profanity, owing a debt to a fellow church member, and failing to attend church. For instance, once in 1840, Brother Edward Kellum was selected "to wait on ——— and cite him to appear before the church at next meeting to answer for non-attendance at church meetings."

If a straying member explained his or her conduct and asked forgiveness, the church forgave. But if the one at fault showed no contrition exclusion might come.

First, Louisville, is celebrating its 150th anniversary this month. The church, organized August 3, 1835, was first called Hepsibah, "the Lord of God's delight." Some of the first meetings were held in the town courthouse.

Minutes of the first 18 years have been preserved, complete, though some ensuing years were lost. These minutes tell of a "protracted prayer meeting," Sept. 11 to Oct. 10, 1850, "meeting every night for four weeks, 35 to 40 souls converted."

A revival has been going on this week at First Church, Louisville, with W. A. Smith, pastor of Sherwood Church, Albany, Ga., as evangelist. On August 4, a musical, "Crown Him Lord" was presented by the adult choir, directed by John Burke, minister of music.

Next Sunday, Aug. 18, the Fairchilds will give a concert. They are three daughters of a former pastor of the church, James Fairchild, and were born in Louisville.

According to Mrs. W. H. Hight, chairman, Sesquicentennial Commit-

tee, Sunday, Aug. 25, will be Founders' Day. Former pastors, James Fairchild, W. L. Day, and Vernon May, and the present pastor, Jimmy D. Porter, will speak in the morning service, from 10 to 12. In the afternoon, after dinner on the ground, a historical pageant written by Mrs. Tom Majure, will present a panorama of the past, and conclude the month-long celebration.

Souvenir tiles were created from Georgia marble, bearing pictures of four of the church buildings: 1835-1903; 1903-1916; 1916-1953; and the present sanctuary, built in 1953. (An earlier building was a log cabin.) Mrs. Charlie L. Green, 93, has worshiped in all four of the buildings.

Silas Dobbs, the first pastor, moved to Mississippi from South Carolina. He and his wife, Mary, sold their land there to a bell maker. This man didn't have enough money to pay for the property, so he gave them a large assortment of bells in part payment. On the journey to Mississippi, Silas and Mary often exchanged bells for food or overnight lodging. As a result, they became known as the "bell movers."

The ordinance of baptism was performed in the Louisville church for the first time "by Elder Silas Dobbs on Sister Susanah Berry and a black brother by the name of Adam belonging to Mr. Henry Fox on the Sabbath morning before services in August, 1836." Slaves were members of the church, and all members worshiped together until December 1847 when preaching services were begun for the blacks, Sunday afternoons at 3.

In August, 1841, a city-wide protracted meeting was held. Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians all participated. Evening services began at "early candle light." From the church minute book: "The Spirit of the Lord was poured out upon the citizens of Louisville and vicinity. Sinners were convicted and converted. Christians were blessed and comforted." The next month the church clerk reported

a debt of \$3 for the Baptists' share of the candles used during the meeting.

Did the church at first only own one hymnbook? In March, 1844, John W. Hudson was appointed as the sexton, "to take care of the church, the Bible and the hymn book; attend the ringing of the bell and the lighting of the church."

Pastors in those early years didn't get a lot of pay. In 1838, Dobbs got \$68.37½ cents for his services. The church had bought him a horse in 1836, for \$95. A group of individuals promised to pay \$10 each or \$3 or whatever. Yet in 1842, the horse was not all paid for. In conference, a list of names was read—names of ones who pledged, how much they had pledged, how much they had paid. Also names of ones who had paid nothing were read. Besides that, the church decided to send a committee to see them and find out why they had not paid.

When the church was less than ten years old, it organized a mission. In June of 1842 a committee petitioned for "an arm of the church" at Sulphur Springs. The church begun there was disbanded some years later. In some recent times, First Church, Louisville has been an instrument in organizing missions which became churches in south, east, and west Louisville.

Once, a surprise delegation came to visit, sent from a sister church, Enon. "The Church called on them to know the nature of their business, where upon they presented a letter charging this church or some one of her members of publishing an error in the Mississippi Baptist No. 47 (a predecessor of the Baptist Record??) January 1st, 1847 relative to the call of the presbytery for the purpose of ordaining Brethren James B. McLelland and Wm. H. Head to the work of the ministry.

"After reading the letter Brother Wm. H. Head acknowledged that he was the writer of the communication and that he had no design in



THE FAIRCHILDS, Treba, Renae, and La Risa, of Atlanta, will be the special guest artists in concert for the sesquicentennial celebration of First Church, Louisville, Mississippi, Aug. 18, at 8 p.m. The Fairchilds have sung in 15 countries, on four continents, as well as appeared on radio and television. They were all born in Louisville when their father, James Fairchild, was pastor there.

publishing an Error, and that he was intireally ignerant of it at the time of writing the communication.

"But upon investigation it was ascertained that he had not Errored but had neglected to give the names of all the Elders that the Church had invited to constitute the presbretr which was the cause of the dissatisfaction of Enon Church."

The first ministers licensed by the church were Benjamin Smith and Nelson Sansing, in 1841. Others licensed or ordained in more recent years have included Wayne Coleman, Hubert Hurt, James Hurt, James Fancher, R. L. Jordan, James Crowson, Paul Moody, Tommy Joe Ray, Billy Smith, Johnny Lee Smith, Limuel Jayroe, Charles Moody, and Kenneth Cheek.

Mary Lee Trenor Askew, who served as a missionary to Japan, and Wilda Trenor Fancher, present president of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, are former members of this church. Paul Harrell, state Brotherhood director, was once minister of education there. Irene Jones Lipscomb, who worked before retirement in Church Training Department, was the church's first secretary.



Juanita (Mrs. William) Hight, chairman of the Sesquicentennial Committee, talks over plans with the pastor, Jimmy Porter, at First Church, Louisville. Porter moved to Louisville, from Grace Memorial, Gulfport, three and a half years ago. He is a Philadelphia native. Mrs. Hight is also the church's librarian. CELEBRATING YOUR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY by Alben Johnson is one of the books she used in planning.

# Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams

## Neshoba's big party

Red ribbons decorated mailboxes and dangled from tree branches. Rosa Hooper parked her car at the end of a long line of cars, at the edge of the highway. She and I paid our \$5 each at the gate of the Neshoba County Fair. Each of us joined Mississippi's houseparty, an umbrella under one arm and a gob of ink stamped on the other.

Wednesday was a hot day, in spite of or because of threatening clouds. Politicians had been speaking most of the morning, and very likely adding some hot air. People sat on porches, fanning, and walked across Founders' Square, fanning. A woman in the Pavilion played a hot fiddle.

"A hot dog and a lemonade would make a good lunch," I suggested, and Rosa agreed. We sat on a bench under one of the giant oaks planted in 1898, while we stared at or smiled at people on porches, and a television cameraman zoomed in on us.

The Exhibit Hall is where Neshoba Countians display their "best farm and garden" products. That's where, about halfway down the corridor, we found the Neshoba County Baptist Booth, a public relations gesture. Kermit Sharp, Neshoba Baptists' director of missions, and his wife, were handing out tracts and information.

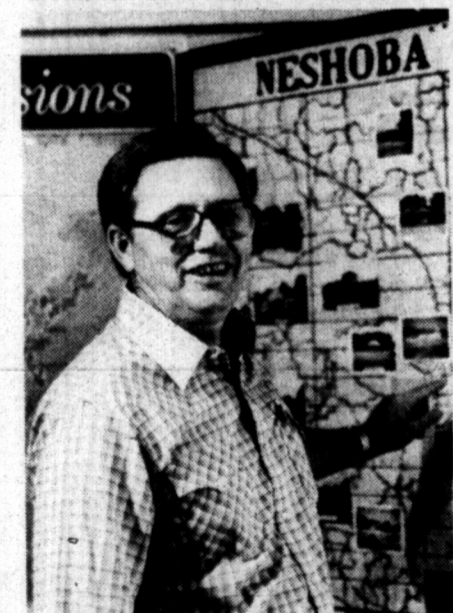
"Hello, preacher. Where's the free Bible you promised me?"

Sharp handed a man a "Good News America" Gospel of John and said, "I'll see you Sunday."

A woman stopped to ask a question. While Mrs. Sharp talked to her, Sharp told me, "I'm the fair's volunteer chaplain. My purpose is to help people know God is here, as well as at home."

The same year he moved to Philadelphia, 15 years ago, he said, he set up his first fair booth. Officials invited him to be fair chaplain. Undoubtedly they liked what they got, for they have invited him back every year.

"I'm available as a troubleshooter," he added. If any kind of disagreement comes up, he's ready to act as mediator. Or if there's an accident —



Kermit Sharp, volunteer chaplain, Neshoba County Fair, and director of missions, Neshoba Association, answers a question about Neshoba County Baptists.

if somebody falls through a porch floor, or gets kicked by a horse — the chaplain will go to the scene of the accident immediately to assist in any way he can.

His Sunday morning devotional message at the Pavilion was, I understand, quoted next day in the *Clarion-Ledger*. And he picked the devotional speakers for the other days of the week. (The choir of First Baptist Church, Philadelphia, sang in the Pavilion on Sunday evening.)

As we emerged from the Exhibit Hall, we learned the reason for all the red ribbons. A young girl handed me a flyer: "Tie a red ribbon and show you care. Too many young people have been lost to drugs — too many families torn apart — too many tears — let's all say loud and clear, 'Enough: We've had enough.' Let's cover the country with red ribbons."

Then I remembered a pleasant night spent at a cabin owned by Beth Darby, cousin of Ollie Faye Wood Woodward (Rosa and I shared an apartment with Ollie Faye long ago.)

Beth asked us in for dessert and coffee. From all that food on the counter, we both picked the caramel cake. We happened in on a sort of family reunion — some Harbours who had found a harbor at the Fair. "If you are looking for Baptists, I have a whole family of them here," Beth said, and introduced her other guests. Bill and Sara Harbour, former neighbors of Beth's, retired and moved back to Philadelphia from Fort McClellan, Ala., in July, after his having been in the military chaplaincy for 20 years.

It was great living in Europe, Bill declared, three years in Germany and three years in Belgium.

"The whole family had opportunities for education and travel we might not have had otherwise. One year they went to the Holy Land, and saw Lebanon before war ruined so much of Beirut.

Before Bill went into the military chaplaincy, he was BSU director for five years at Northwest Junior College. (He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and New Orleans Seminary, and studied a year at Yale.)

"It's good to be back in Mississippi, and Philadelphia," he said. Their gift-jewelry shop, "The Harbour" had been closed so they could come to the Fair. (In fact, I hear that most of Philadelphia closes when the fairgrounds open.) Both Bill and Sara grew up in Philadelphia, and "always" went to the fair, where her parents, the Hollands, owned a cabin.

Their children, in turn, liked the fair as much as they did, and were with them last week (see picture.) Now the oldest son is an electrical engineer, and is married. The youngest son is at State. The daughter, 16, and a high school junior, is very much involved in activities at First Baptist Church, Philadelphia.

Sitting in Beth's swing, they have all found, is a good way to spend a summer afternoon.



Bill Harbour, back row, right, recently retired military chaplain, relaxes with his family at the Neshoba County Fair. Standing beside him is his aunt, Evelyn Harbour Pace. On second row from back are Dan Harbour, son; Sara Harbour, wife; Dave Harbour, son; third row from back, Debbie Beaverson Harbour, daughter-in-law; and bottom row, Mary Claire Harbour, mother.

## Sunday School Board trustees urge study of editorial processes

By Linda Lawson

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP)—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board adopted a statement expressing regret and concern about errors in a July 7 Sunday school lesson and urging study of editorial processes and care in selecting writers.

In the lesson which appeared in "Adult Bible Study," a periodical in the Life and Work Series, several statements present incorrect interpretations of Satan in the book of Job.

The recommendation from the Bible teaching committee drew only one negative vote after addition of an amendment proposed by committee chairman Morrine George of Dallas.

"As trustees we have reviewed carefully the events regarding the 'Adult Bible Study' interpretation of Job, especially July 7. We join with the administration in expressing our concern and regret for the errors included in this lesson," the amendment says.

The recommendation goes on to reaffirm the principles "which have served us in curriculum preparation, and to encourage those in administrative positions as they study and evaluate and make needed changes to exercise special care in determining the doctrinal and biblical commitment of writers by carefully reviewing their published works, their public statements, and their personal testimony."

The recommendation was adopted after defeat of a substitute motion by Ned Mathews, pastor of Parkwood Baptist Church, Gastonia, N.C., by a vote of 41-27.

The substitute motion would have instructed the trustees to "implement a more discriminating policy for the employment of lesson writers," specifying five criteria: needs of Baptists, consistency with the "Baptist Faith and Message" statement, reflection of strong evangelical commitment, confidence in the accuracy of Scripture, and devotional spirit.

In his report to the trustees, BSSB President Lloyd Elder said the errors in the lesson have generated 155 letters and telephone calls as of July 31.

In response to trustee questions,

Elder said the first Baptist Press story dated July 19 noted that errors were mistakes made in the editing process and were not the fault of the writer, John I. Durham, professor of Hebrew and Old Testament at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. The story was based on a study of the most immediate questions raised by Baptists about the lesson, he said.

"The Baptist Press release was accurate regarding those initial concerns," said Elder.

"However, a more complete review of the entire lesson shows the manuscript by Durham is not unlike what appears in print. However, the Sunday School Board is accountable and responsible for final editing of all manuscripts."

He attributed the mistakes to "human error, human judgment, and time factor. These errors were compounded one by the other."

At the time the manuscript was edited, Elder said, the permanent editor had changed jobs, the super-

### CAC cancels two seminars

The Christian Action Commission announces the cancellation of the following seminars:

Marriage Enrichment Seminar, September 13-15, 1985, at Lake Tiak O'Khata, Louisville.

Parenting by Grace Seminar, October 4-5, 1985, at Faith Baptist Church, Starkville.

## Revival Dates

Mt. Zion (Rankin): Aug. 18-22; reg. Sunday services, dinner, fellowship hall; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Gary Bowlin, evangelist; Richard and Brenda Sullivan, music; John Patterson, pastor.

Doty Springs (Attala): Aug. 18-23; Sunday services, 10:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30; ice cream fellowship following Fri. night service; special music by local people; messages by Joe K. Hill, pastor.

Bellevue (Lamar): Aug. 18 to Aug. 23; lunch at church following service on Aug. 18; each evening at 7 o'clock; Cliff Estes, Christian Growth Concepts, Inc., evangelist; Joe Clark, Bellevue minister of music and youth, music director; Jim Roberson, pastor.

Faith (Lawrence): Aug. 18 to Aug. 22; weekday 7:30 p.m.; Danny Berry, pastor, Bethany, Prentiss, evangelist; Ralph Cranford, pastor.

visor was retiring, a temporary editor was enlisted to work within a short time frame, and the same person was later mistakenly enlisted to serve as appraisal reader on the manuscript he had edited.

Discussion among the trustees centered on whether the major problem to be addressed in preventing future problems is editorial processes or writer selection.

George, chairman of the trustee Bible teaching committee, said, "Steps have already been put into place to correct this problem. There is no system in which mistakes will not occur."

Linda Lawson writes for the Sunday School Board.

## Secretaries' seminar looms

A church secretary basic certification seminar is set for Sept. 16-20 at the Baptist Building in Jackson.

Lucy Hoskins, recently retired from the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, will be seminar leader.

The program will include sharpening of mechanical and communication skills, relational training, and self-improvement exercises.



## Preschool/Children's Weekend to be Sept. 6-7 at Gulfshore

The Preschool/Children's Weekend at Gulfshore is scheduled for Sept. 6-7, not Sept. 7-8, as printed in the Baptist Record last week. It was a writer's error.

The weekend offers training for all adults who teach preschoolers or children in Sunday School. For program information contact Billy Hudgens, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Sunday School Department.

# SCRAPBOOK

Dan. 3:16-17: God is able . . . but even if he doesn't. . .

## Even if he doesn't

"Even if He doesn't" march to my drumbeat today  
Doesn't answer even one, the prayers I sent his way,

Does it mean that he has gone, has turned his face from me,  
Taken back his love sublime, has left me in this sea

Of bitter sorrow, all alone, so frightened at this hour,  
Pleading God, "Rescue me now, reveal your mighty power."

Yet, "even if he doesn't," my prayer request to do  
Convinced within my soul am I, his promises are true.

He loves me, and he's with me, he knows his plans for me,  
They be good, not evil, matters not my faith can't see.

He answers me not early, nor too late, just in time,  
And "even if he doesn't" I know his best is mine.

—Mrs. D. F. Crowe  
Greenville

## Old homeplace

A bright morning sun peeps over the trees  
Shimmering and sparkling on the grass and the leaves.  
Across the meadow, I hear a dove's soft coo;  
The cattle are grazing on grass wet with dew.

Old homeplace, weatherbeaten and gray,  
Gate falling down, steps rotting away,  
Memories of mornings in the past  
Remind me some wonderful things never last.

A sunrise is beautiful anywhere  
I watch them and love them year after year,  
But no other sunrise can ever replace  
A sunrise seen from the old homeplace.

—Ruth Norsworthy Crager  
State Line

## Summer time

Summer brings us vacations  
It brings hot weather too  
There'll be some indecisions  
In planning what to do.  
For some, a time of travel  
Or tending gardens, flowers, lawns  
There may be picnics and hiking  
Or just lying in the sun.

There are creeks and lakes in the  
country  
Swimming pools in town

And we can take a cooling swim  
In whichever we're around.  
We enjoy homemade ice cream  
Or a tinkling glass of tea  
We gorge on fruits and vegetables  
As fresh as they can be.

We visit with oletime relatives,  
At reunions make a hit  
And wonder why some look so old  
And we've not changed a bit!  
We paint the house  
Clean out the garage  
Wash and wax the cars  
We build a deck and cut the hedge  
Put up burglar bars.

We might go sailing if we have a boat  
Or even learn to ski  
Throw in some fishing along the way  
Or vacate by the sea.  
Among all these things  
Ere we forget  
Attend church we must  
And make God first in our lives  
Because he cares for us.

—Ibera Garner  
Jackson

## A miracle

What do I see  
When I look at a tree?  
A symbol of God's great majesty.  
Man may try—but only He  
Has power to make that miracle be.

—Lillian Peters Whitten  
Macon

# Hunger relief giving surpasses \$6 million

By David Wilkinson

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptists in the first half of 1985 contributed more than \$6 million to their denomination's hunger relief ministries, about \$1 million short of the total given during all of 1984.

Through June 30, a total of \$5,519,454 had been given to the Foreign Mission Board's overseas hunger relief fund, and \$484,813 had been contributed to the domestic hunger fund administered by the Home Mission Board, according to figures released by the two Southern Baptist Convention agencies.

In 1984, the SBC's worldwide hunger relief ministries received a record \$7.16 million. The figures do not reflect monies given for hunger ministry that were utilized in local churches, associations, and state conventions.

This year's record pace in contributions coincides with an outpouring of gifts from Americans stimulated by

news media coverage of the devastating famine in Ethiopia and other African nations.

Interaction, a coalition of more than 120 voluntary agencies active in famine relief and development, reported that through May of this year Americans had given \$120.6 million to agencies working in Africa.

The total does not include an estimated \$60 million generated to date by the British "Band Aid" and American "U.S.A. for Africa" recordings. The figure also does not include Foreign Mission Board.

The Baptist World Alliance, a member of Interaction, reported recently its World Aid division received a record \$2.3 million for hunger relief during the fiscal year ending March 31. Giving included \$1.75 million to aid African famine victims.

David Wilkinson writes for the Christian Life Commission.

## Staff Changes

Warren Whitaker, pastor of Union Church, Mississippi Association for the past few years, has resigned.

Slater Murphy has been called as minister of music at Fairview Church, Columbus. He is moving there from Memphis, Tenn.

John Lewis Gainer accepted the call as pastor of Center Grove (Oktoberfest). He was in the pulpit Aug. 5. The congregation honored them with a welcome supper after the Sunday night service.

Leo Tims, resident of Duncan, has been called as interim pastor of First Church, Gunnison, where he is a former pastor.

Terry Owens has been called as pastor of Midway Church, Bolivar County. He, his wife, Paula, and their two children will live in Deeson.

New Zion, Liberty, recently called E. W. Campbell of Magnolia as pastor. He is a native of Memphis, Tenn., and

has served in the pastorates in New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Texas. He served as vice-president of the State Convention of New Mexico and on the executive board of

Campbell the New Mexico and Colorado State Conventions. Campbell is currently a deputy sheriff and police chaplain in Pike County. He and his wife live in Pike County, and will commute to the church for the services and other activities.

Kelly Barnette resigned as pastor of Beech Grove, Pattison, July 28, to attend Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Call for Free BROCHURE **BAPTISTRIES HEATERS, PUMPS FACTORY DIRECT**  
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679  
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679  
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO  
3511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

## In Pascagoula

**LaFont Inn makes your business a pleasure**

■ 193 resort rooms, convertible interview/bedrooms and new executive suites ■ 6 banquet/meeting rooms for 50-350  
■ Olympic-size pool and heated whirlpool  
■ Sauna and exercise room ■ Lighted tennis courts

Call toll free:  
1-800-821-3668  
U. S. 90 East, Pascagoula

## FMB names new journeymen

RICHMOND, Va. — Southern Baptists commissioned 66 new journeymen July 19 for work in 36 countries during the next two years.

The journeymen will work alongside career missionaries, handling assignments ranging from youth evangelism to social and agricultural ministries.

They come from 19 states and include three married couples.

The journeymen will travel overseas later this summer as the 1983 group completes service and returns to the States.

Mississippians named are Lenora Salley, Meridian, Burkina Faso, and Jamie Smith, Clinton, South Africa.

## Center Grove to mark centennial

Center Grove Church, Route 7, Meridian, will celebrate its 100th anniversary Aug. 18-25, with revival services. Former pastors, and one man ordained by Center Grove, will come back to preach.

Dinner will be served in the church fellowship hall after the morning service on Sunday, Aug. 18. Both Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Week night services will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The schedule of preachers will include Leon Young, Sun. morning, Aug. 18; William Earl Green, Sun. night, 18; James Irby, Mon. night, Aug. 19; Jamie Hagwood, Tues. night, Aug. 20; N. H. Smith, Wed. night, Aug. 21; Chester Estes Jr., Thurs. night, Aug. 22; T. E. Williams, Fri. night, Aug. 23; Jake Williams, Sat. night, Aug. 24; and H. C. Crenshaw, pastor, Sun. morning and night, Aug. 25. Leon Williams is minister of music.



## Bolivar team builds a house

A team of seven from Bolivar Baptist Association spent July 13-20 in Mooreville, Ind., working with Five Points Baptist Church. There the three men and one youth contributed approximately 200 hours toward the construction of a house to be used as a pastor's home. The three women conducted nine sessions of Backyard Bible Clubs in two locations. In the picture are front row, Charlton Johnson, Georgia Anderson, and Merle Anderson. Back row: Joyce Johnson, D. A. "Doc" Brown, Jewel Henderson, and Odis Henderson.

# IRS revises mortgage deduction rules

Washington — The Internal Revenue Service has announced that for certain ministers Revenue Ruling 83-3, to disallow deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes paid by a minister out of a tax-free parsonage allowance will not be applied until Jan. 1, 1987. Relief from the disallowance of deduction is provided only to ministers who owned and occupied a home before Jan. 3, 1983, or who, on that date, had a contract to purchase a home and later owned and occupied that home.

If, on Jan. 3, 1983, a minister owned and occupied a home or had a contract to purchase a home, but later ceased to occupy that home, the disallowance in Revenue Ruling 83-3 applies for any home the minister may subsequently occupy, regardless of when that occupancy begins.

The IRS explained that Internal Revenue Code section 265(1) disallows any deductions for expenses allocable to tax-exempt income. In Revenue Ruling 83-3, issued on Jan. 3, 1983, the IRS said that section 265(1) precludes deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes paid by a minister out of a tax-free parsonage allowance.

Revenue Ruling 85-96, which modifies Revenue Ruling 83-3, is attached and will be published in Internal Revenue Bulletin No. 1985-29, dated July 22, 1985.

Part I  
Section 265. — Expenses and Interest Relating to Tax-Exempt Income 26 CFR 1.265-1: Expenses

relating to tax-exempt income. (Also sections 107, 163, 164; 1.107-1, 1.163-1, 1.164-1.)  
Rev. Rul. 85-96

Rev. Rul. 83-3, 1983-1 C.B. 72, holds, in part, that a minister may not deduct interest and property taxes that are allocable to a rental allowance excluded from gross income under section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code. This holding is based on section 265(1) of the Code, which provides, in part, that no deduction is allowed for any amount that is otherwise deductible but that is allocable to one or more classes of income (other than interest) wholly exempt from income tax. Section 7805(b) of the Code grants the discretion for any revenue ruling to be applied without retroactive effect. Under the authority contained in section 7805(b), Rev. Rul. 83-3 states that if a minister owned and occupied a home before January 3, 1983 (or before January 3, 1983, had a contract to purchase a home and subsequently owns and occupies that home), there will be no disallowance of deductions for interest and property taxes until the earlier of the date on which the minister no longer occupies the home or January 1, 1985.

Section 1052 of the Tax Reform Act of 1984, Pub. L. 98-369, provides that with respect to any mortgage interest or real property tax costs paid or incurred before January 1, 1986, by any minister of the gospel who owned and occupied a home before January 3, 1983 (or had a contract to purchase a home before such date and subsequently owned and occupied such home), the application of section 265(1) of the Code to such costs will be determined without regard to Rev. Rul. 83-3 (and without regard to any other regulation, ruling, or decision reaching the same result, or a result similar to the result, set forth in Rev. Rul. 83-3).

The Internal Revenue Service has decided, under the authority of section 7805(b), to grant further relief to taxpayers who may have relied on Rev. Rul. 62-212, 1962-2 C.B. 41, which was revoked by Rev. Rul. 83-3. Accordingly, deductions for mortgage interest and real property tax costs will not be disallowed under Rev. Rul. 83-3 if such costs are paid or incurred before January 1, 1987, and if section 1052 of the Tax Reform Act of 1984 would have applied to those costs had they been paid or incurred before January 1, 1986.

## New postal rates remain uncertain; hike possible

WASHINGTON (BP)—Postal rates for non-profit publications including state Baptist newspapers and church newsletters are likely to rise Oct. 1, though figures remain uncertain.

Before adjourning for its August recess, Congress passed a fiscal year 1986 budget calling for \$748 million in federal subsidies for the U.S. Postal Service to provide reduced mailing rates to a wide category of non-profit mailers.

That figure falls \$233 million short of what would be needed to keep non-profit rates at the current level. According to a spokesman for the Postal Service, the shortfall would translate into about a 30 percent rate increase for such mailers, effective Oct. 1 when the fiscal year begins.

But congressional sources say the shortfall may be considerably less. An aide to Sen. Quentin N. Burdick, D-N.D., told Baptist Press the Senate ap-

propriations committee may restore funds to the subsidy in September, when Congress returns from its traditional summer break. She said the final figure could run as high as \$961 million, only \$20 million less than what the Postal Service spokesman said is needed to retain the subsidy at its current level.

Burdick, an advocate of the subsidy, succeeded July 31 in having the appropriations panel pass an amendment to the budget calling for an \$801 million subsidy, the same amount provided in a House-passed budget bill last May. The amendment must await final action until September.

Non-profit and other subsidized mailers are presently at step 14 of a 16-step plan to eliminate the subsidy. Step 15 is scheduled to take effect July 1, 1986. These mailers have pressured Congress all along to stay with the phase-out schedule announced in 1970.

## Baptists in Kampala safe

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP) — Baptists in Kampala escaped serious injury, but at least one Southern Baptist missionary home was looted in the July 27 military coup that ousted Ugandan President Milton Obote.

Missionary Jim Rice, in a phone report July 31 from Nairobi, Kenya, said Conservative Baptist missionary Dick Otto reported some Baptists in

Kampala had been "roughed up" or had items stolen, but no one was seriously injured or killed.

Otto also said the home of missionaries George and Doris Berry of South Carolina had been stripped of most portable items and a mission car had been stolen from their yard.

But Rice's home, where goods for two flourishing families were stored, appeared untouched by looters.

## Devotional

### The world looks and wonders

By Jack B. Bennett

"... These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also."



Bennett

In this day and age we as Southern Baptists have a God-given charge to also turn the world upside down for Christ. Bold Mission Thrust is a twentieth century plan for doing first century work. The challenge of worldwide proclamation of the gospel and local church witness is no different today than in the first century. The magnitude may be greater; but the need is just as urgent. The workers are few in comparison with the numbers needing to be touched.

As Southern Baptists, we must rally to the cause of Christ. Political and factional disputes must never stand in the way of our supreme goal of missions and evangelism. The world — not the Convention — needs to be turned upside down. Unity in love, fellowship in understanding, conviction in faith must unite us. Commitment to the Lord Jesus and his program must motivate us.

Each of us is a specially designed creation of God — designed for witness. As true believers, we are given the power to do what needs to be done — power to turn the world upside down. Yet we start our work in our own lives, then in our local church area, and then extend our work of witness to the world.

Yes, the world is looking. The world is wondering. The Lord has called us to the work. Now what will each of us do to turn the world upside down for Christ?

Bennett is pastor, First, Ripley.

## Revival Dates

Thorn Hill (Rankin): Aug. 11-16; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Wilson Winstead, evangelist; Windell Wiggins, music; Kim Tillitson, pianist; Guy Gray, pastor.

Arrowood, 1201 48th Ave., Meridian: Aug. 18-23; Ken Kirk, Brookhaven, evangelist; Paul Bird, Meridian, music; services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sunday; 7 p.m. each week night. Robert Mooney, pastor.

Grace Chapel, Brooklyn: Aug. 11-16; Sunday, Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; followed by dinner on the ground; afternoon service, 2 p.m. with the "Expressions" bringing special music; Mon.-Fri. services, 7 p.m.; Millard Bounds, Arbor Spring, Ala., evangelist; Randy Daniels, pastor; music director.

Second, Kosciusko: Aug. 11-16; Jack Stanley, Haven Wood, Wilma, Ala., evangelist; Canny Dodds, pastor.

Bethany (Jasper): Aug. 18-23; homecoming, Sunday, dinner in fellowship hall; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; Don Mathis, former pastor, bringing homecoming message; afternoon service will be 1:15 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. services, 7 p.m.; Wesley Miley, Louin, evangelist; Walter Johnson, pastor.

Second, Indianola: Aug. 18-22; Joe Boatwright, pastor, Aloma, Winter Park, Fla., evangelist; Paul Harper, minister of music, First, Itta Bena, music; 12 noon, 7:30 p.m.; family seminar each night at 7:00; Billy J. Beckett, pastor.

Corinth, Rt. 1, Heidelberg: Aug. 16-18; youth revival; Johnny Hughes, Tuscaloosa, Ala., guest speaker; different singing groups each night to present special music; 7:00 p.m. each night; Edd Holloman, pastor.

Sardis Lake (Panola): Aug. 18-23; Floyd Higginbotham, evangelist; Tom Moak, music; Higginbotham and Moak are both from Pleasant Hill, Bogue Chitto; Billy Howse, pastor.

Southside, 800 Raymond Road, Jackson: Aug. 18-21; Sunday, worship service, 10:30 a.m.; nightly services, 7:00 p.m.; Larry Taylor, full-time evangelist, San Antonio, Tex.; Donald N. Bozeman, pastor.

Star (Rankin): Aug. 18-23; 7:30 p.m.; evangelistic team of Tom and Joy Snellen, Ft. Worth, Tex.; minister of music and youth, John Renfroe; R.A. Dottley, pastor.

Calvary, Silver Creek: homecoming, Aug. 18; revival, Aug. 18-24; Sonny Adkins, evangelist; Steve Huey, music leader; Steve Russell, pianist; service, Sunday, 11 a.m.; followed by covered dish lunch, noon; Sunday afternoon, 1:30; Bill Clark will present a concert of gospel music; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Ken Crosby, interim pastor.

Holmesville, McComb (Pike): Aug. 18-23; Sunday worship, 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Billy F. Wooten, Tuscaloosa, Ala., evangelist; Kenny Peavy, Columbia, music; Buddy Puryear, pastor.

Faith, (Simpson): Aug. 19-25; Frank Shields, Ebenezer, Jonesboro, La., evangelist; Laurene McDonald, minister of music, Faith, music; Victor Johnson, pastor.

Hopewell (Copiah-Lincoln): Aug. 14-18; Wed.-Fri. services, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday services, special singing service with "Son of Faith" singing, Sunday services, 11 a.m., lunch on the ground; Jimmy Sellers, pastor, Hopewell, preaching; Lavell Pruitt, music.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9  
Thursday, August 15, 1985

## Jones BSU will sponsor drama workshop

The Baptist Student Union is sponsoring a drama workshop on Sept. 7. It will be held at the BSU Center Jones County Junior College, 105 Ash Street, Ellisville, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The instructor will be Johnny Hyde of Jackson. He is associated with Magnolia Speech School, Inc. and has had many years of experience in drama.

The session will include drama as a tool in worship, education, outreach, and expression. The afternoon session 1-3 p.m. for those who can remain, will deal with drama as a ministry. There will be no charge. Those interested are asked to contact the Baptist Student Union (477-3973) by August 28.

## Colson directs deaf mission at Forrest Avenue

Forrest Avenue Church, Biloxi, has a new deaf mission, directed by Alex G. Colson, a recent graduate of New Orleans Seminary.



Colson then retires to the church fellowship hall for separate services.

Colson is a retired teacher of the deaf and the product of deaf parents. Sign-language classes are being offered.

## Mississippi Baptist activities

Aug. 24 Associational Officers Training; 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FBC, Oxford (PD)

**PUBLISH YOUR BOOK!**  
Quill Publications  
Box 8193, Dept. BR  
Columbus, GA 31906  
Phone: 404-327-4678  
Send for free booklet - tells how to estimate for your book. Low as \$2.00 ea. for 1000 copies, 120 pp. You make it interesting - We make it beautiful!

**OLD BIBLES REBOUND**  
A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder.  
"Internationally known specialists"  
**NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO.**  
Box 305-C - Greenwood, Miss. 38930

Pews, pulpits, baptistries, stained glass, carpet, steeples, chairs, tables, lighting, folding doors  
**Van Winkle Church Furnishings & Upholstery**  
Box 501, Fulton, MS. 38843  
In MS. Toll Free 1-800-624-9627  
Design—Construction Management  
**We Remodel & Paint**

## Names in the News



Mississippi State University BSU has elected its executive council for 1985-86. Members are pictured, left to right: **Gary Permenter**, worship/study director, West Point; **Mary Ellen Thomas**, international student coordinator, Vicksburg; **Beth Sartain**, community outreach, Ethel; **Fran Herring**, BSU secretary, Starkville; **Avis Mullins**, social chairman, Meadville; **June Scoggins**, associate director, Starkville; **Sandy V. McRaney**, publicity chairman, Pascagoula; **Linda Halfacre**, vice-president, Winona; **Michael Ball**, president, Jackson; **Allen Simpson**, student center chairman, Eupora; **Philip Davidson**, discipleship coordinator, Jackson; **George Swindoll**, intramural coordinator, Collinsville; **Mark Mathis**, missions chairman, Starkville; **Ken Watkins**, BSU director, Starkville; **Martin Bell**, music coordinator, Macon; and **Mark Taylor**, campus coordinator, Florence, Ala.

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (BP)** — Craven E. Williams, president of Gardener-Webb College since Aug. 1, 1976, has resigned. He will continue to lead the Baptist school until June 30, 1986.

Williams will become president of Dominion Corporation in Raleigh, a corporation involved in land development, new construction, property management, and other personal and family ventures.

### WASHINGTON (BP)

**Kathy Palen**, director of public relations at Oklahoma Baptist University, will join the Washington bureau of Baptist Press (BP), news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, about Sept. 15. Her primary assignment will be to cover Congress.

Palen, 29, will also become assistant to the director of information services at the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington.

**John Lyon** is available for supply preaching or for a pastorate. A native of Pontotoc, he is former pastor of Hope Baptist Church, Water Valley. He may be contacted at Route 2, Box 259W, Water Valley, Miss. 38965 (phone 473-2183).

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)**—Two staff members have been added to the news bureau staff at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. **Susan M. Shaw**, a doctor of education student from Rome, Ga., has been named news director. **Susan M. Perz**, a native of Seminole, Fla., currently enrolled in the master of divinity program at Southern seminary, has been named campus editor/feature writer.

### Emmanuel Church, Jackson



Mixon

recently held Pastor Appreciation Day for Frank Nixon and his wife, Ruth. Among the gifts was a 20" by 25" color portrait of the pastor from the senior ladies' Sunday School class.

Originality is doing what some one else did years ago — after the public has forgotten about it.



## "Will you marry me?"

Frank Gunn, kneeling, a senior at William Carey College and summer youth intern at Temple Church in Hattiesburg, asks Lydia Jackson, a senior at the University of Southern Mississippi, to marry him on July 26 with the help of the church's youth group on Temple's parking lot. The youth had just returned from a scavenger hunt when Gunn, son of Frank and Sandra Gunn of Biloxi, popped the question. Miss Jackson, a member of Temple, said yes, which brought a chorus of cheers from the youth.

## Sunday School leader training weekend set at Gulfshore

A special Sunday School leader training weekend is set for Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Sept. 20-21. The weekend offers an emphasis on teaching methods and lesson planning for adult and youth teachers, and general officers.

Program leaders include Jerry Massey, pastor, First Church, Amory, teaching general officers; Paul Lee, minister of education, Bowmar Ave. Church, Vicksburg, young adult teachers; Wayne Edwards, pastor, First church, Eudora, median adult; Jimmy Lawrence, minister of education, First, Biloxi, older adult; Bill Gambrell, minister of education, First Church, Jackson, other adult leadership such as department direc-

tors, outreach leaders; Lala Cooper, youth worker, First, Oxford, older youth; Deborah Lee, youth worker, Bowmar Ave., Vicksburg, younger youth; and James D. Williams, associate to the president's office of planning and research, Baptist Sunday School Board, general session leader.

The program begins with dinner at 5:30 Sept. 20, and concludes the next day with lunch.

To register, write Frank Simmons, manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. A \$30 per person registration fee is required. There will be no child care provided.

## Just for the Record



Planning student activities at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center for the upcoming year are Lu Harding, assistant administrator, left; Sharon Miley, senior radiography student and BSU president, center; and Kathy Bearden, MBMC director of student activities. Plans include an August retreat at Rice Acres for the student council; Don Rhymes, director of evangelism, First Church, Jackson, leading a study in soul-winning during September and October; and Religious Emphasis Week with Guy Henderson, director of evangelism, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, speaking on Oct. 10 and 11.

**Harrisville, Highway 469, Harrisville**; will host a special program, Aug. 18, 7 p.m. in church sanctuary. Fellowship Senior Adult Choir, with 45 voices, from Ridgecrest, Jackson

under direction of Joe Chapman will present a celebration of messages in music. Sammy J. McDonald is minister of music.

The youth of First, Lambert, under leadership of associate pastor Clyde Schiele, have participated in several mission projects this summer. The group left for Pittsburgh, Penn. where they led in Vacation Bible School at University Church and Community Church, June 17-21. During this week the group conducted youth encounters and rallies, parents' night, and presented contemporary gospel music by "The Promise" and choral worship services in malls, restaurants, a Geriatric Center, and wherever the team got the opportunity to share Jesus. The group left July 24, for Owenton, Ky. to lead in weekend youth revival services at Cedar Hill Church. Youth rallies, prayer groups, all types of fun activities were conducted by the group of 21 youth and seven counselors with the people of that church.

The team had a day of fun at King's Island near Cincinnati, Ohio. They returned to Lambert Sunday night, July 28.

## "Single Encounters" scheduled

Single Encounters of the Christian Kind is the theme of the seminar scheduled at Cambridge Church, Gautier, on August 16 and 17. The seminar is sponsored by Christian Singles Growing Together/Jackson County, a group of Christian singles from a number of small Baptist churches in Jackson County.

Curt Burge, a speaker with singles groups, will lead the seminar and will discuss such topics as "Encounters of the Negative Kind" and "Sexuality — Wants vs. Shoulds." Other speakers/leaders in the seminar are David Lee, pastor of First Church, Moss Point, who will discuss the loneliness aspect of singleness; Steve

Stewart, Certified Public Accountant and financial counselor, who will discuss the money factor; and Ada Reid, director of public relations at Memorial Hospital at Gulfport, who will lead a discussion on "Loving Life and Yourself."

Registration for the seminar is \$5. Additional information can be obtained by calling 497-1329. Registrations can be mailed to Cambridge Baptist Church, Box 865, Gautier, Ms. 39553.



## Homecomings

**First, Yazoo City**; Aug. 18, "Homecoming '85"; 11 a.m. worship service, special music by the sanctuary choir and an instrumental ensemble; recognitions, including honoring one who has made a significant contribution to the life and ministry of Yazoo City's First Church; morning message by James F. Yates, pastor; the day will also mark Yates' 24th year as pastor; at the noon hour an old-fashioned "dinner on the ground" will be served on the church

lawn; evening worship hour, 7 p.m., concert of gospel and sacred music by Darrell E. Adams, a singer, writer and performer with headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky.

**First, Mendenhall**; "First Homecoming" Sat. and Sun., Aug. 17-18; Sat. 5 p.m., games and fellowship followed by 6:30 p.m. fish fry/hamburger/homemade ice cream supper; Sunday morning, Bible Study, 9:15, worship service, 10:30, followed by "dinner-at-the-church" lunches

from 11:30-1 p.m.; 1 p.m., Sunday, music followed by a time of remembering the past; Hueston Adkins, pastor.

**First, Magnolia**; 159th Anniversary; August 18; former members invited to share in the day of festivities, including former pastors, B. Frank Smith, James B. Riley, and William T. Crosby; afternoon services, musical concerts, former ministers of music, and others.

**Pleasant Valley**; homecoming, Aug. 18; dinner after services; Dewitt Mitchell, sermon; a gospel sing will be held from 2 until 4 p.m.

### Off the Record

Did you hear about the loonie sitting on the steps of the New York Library reading between the lions?

Some of the big guns are silenced when a war ends; others begin work on their memoirs.



# THE VILLAGE VIEW



## The Baptist Children's Village

Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director  
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

### Gifts of Honor and Memory June 26 - July 25

Curtis McNemar  
Mrs. Willie Olson & Children  
Mr. William McRight  
Dr. & Mrs. Gary Jackson  
Mrs. M. J. Meeks  
Rafe & Burg Ellenburg  
J. J. Meyers  
Mrs. Essie F. Meyers  
Mother of Mrs. William A. Miller, Jr.  
Mrs. R. H. Sneed  
Mr. Bill Mitchell  
Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Ireland  
Josephine Sullivan Mitchell  
Graeber Brothers Inc.  
Mrs. Theo Duboise  
Eunice Williams Moody  
Sally Moody Gaupp  
Mrs. Carrie Ruth Moore  
Mr. & Mrs. James Kidd  
Mr. James T. Morgan, Sr.  
Skyward Sunday School  
Miss Katherine Morgan  
Ben & Nancy Morgan  
Mrs. Lucie L. Morgan  
Ben & Nancy Morgan  
Roy Morgan  
Mrs. Robert E. Rushing & Family  
Mrs. Ernest C. (Nina) Moss, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. C. G. Cryder  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Quinn  
Dr. Raymond S. Martin, Jr.  
Mrs. Betty E. Griffin  
Fishers of Men Class.  
Jackson  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond S. Martin  
Mr. Claud Mulholland  
James P. Knight  
Mr. & Mrs. Minor Nichols  
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Nichols  
Jeffrey Nix  
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Glulledge  
Miss India Nunnery  
Mrs. Phyllis Bunton  
Ted Nutt  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Beard  
Dorothy O'Neill  
Alanson & Lois Turnbough  
Mrs. Timothy O'Neill  
Miss Suenette Dinkins  
Mr. Joe Palmer  
Mr. & Mrs. John Manning  
L. O. (Buck) Palmer  
Mrs. John H. Douglas  
Susan Parker  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry M. Peterson  
Mary Elizabeth Parks  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul H. Stanley  
Lea Anne Stanley  
Mr. Archie Parr  
Norman & Audra O'Neal  
Mrs. Flo Parsons  
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Griffin  
Mr. & Mrs. William H. Jones  
W. F. Patton, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs  
Mr. Joel G. Payne  
Mrs. Gerry McGraw  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Pajerski  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Roell  
Mrs. Ralph (Virginia) Lykens  
Petty, Sr.  
Betsy Abbott  
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Jones  
Mrs. J. E. Simmons  
Mr. & Mrs. John G. Hardy  
Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Wilson, Jr.  
Billie & Betty Bonner  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Keeton, Jr.  
Mrs. Ressie C. Pickard  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L. Craig  
Guy M. Pierce  
Rena Lara Baptist Church  
Mr. Jimmy Pope  
Mr. & Mrs. John Manning  
Mrs. Bess Young Portwood  
Mr. & Mrs. Carl M. Kelly  
Miss Bertha Price  
Dr. Milburn Price

Jesse Price  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert D. Hart  
Mrs. Ivy Quin  
Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Hazlewood  
First Bank of Southwest  
Mississippi, Liberty  
Miss Glanara Anderson

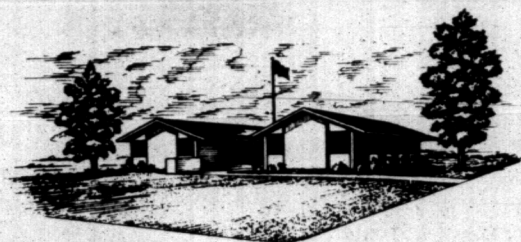
Mrs. Amma Robertson  
Mr. & Mrs. Druward Smith  
Miss Hilda Robinson  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Knight  
Mrs. Martha Vada Rose  
Mrs. Robert C. Parker  
Mrs. Evelyn & Eloise Gant

Mrs. Willie Mae Scarborough  
Married Adult 2 Sunday School  
Mrs. Minnie Stephens  
Mary F. Edwards  
Mary Banks Shears  
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Holloway  
Mr. Jack F. Sheffield  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Hancock  
Adrian Sheppard  
Mr. & Mrs. Ellis Harris, Jr.  
Mrs. Ada D. Shirley  
Jimmy & Judy Pryor  
Mr. Simmons  
Mrs. Hilton Varnado  
Edwin Sinclair  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Saulters  
Mrs. A. G. Sutton

Robert Snell  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Snell  
Miss Kim Saunders  
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar D. Jones  
Mrs. Elma Stacy  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry N. Talar  
David & Tabitha  
Mr. & Mrs. L. G. McGregor  
Mr. Stanfield  
Mrs. Edith W. Gibson  
Mr. E. L. Stanford  
Miss Myree Wooldridge  
Mr. John E. Sterling  
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Daughdrill  
Mr. & Mrs. T. F. Badon  
Mrs. Eula Lee Stevens  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L. Johnson

Mr. Robert Stevens  
Bullhead Baptist Church  
Mr. T. F. Stevens  
Mr. & Mrs. H. H. Hight  
Mrs. Maurine C. Twiss  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Steele, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilmer H. Fulton  
Mr. & Mrs. Webb A. Boswell  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Brantley & Family  
Mrs. William H. Hight  
J. A. & Anna L. Haynes  
Mrs. H. L. Thompson  
Mr. & Mrs. Argie F. Luke  
David P. & Lillian Quinn  
Harry & Florence McNeel  
Rosemary Middleton  
E. Bryan Smith

C. L. & Corrine Bradburn  
Norma Sue & Jackie  
Hamilton Green  
Mrs. Jocelyn Carter  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Caperton  
Bobby & Loretta Kirk & Masse  
Mr. T. F. Stevens  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Caperton  
Mrs. James F. Duncan  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Wiggers  
Linda Walker  
Mrs. J. W. Hamrick  
Steadman Motors  
Angus McAllester Stewart  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard A. Jordan  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Dozier  
Mr. Mac Stewart  
Rev. & Mrs. Karl McGraw & Family  
Mr. Clifton Stone  
Mr. & Mrs. J. V. Parker, Jr.  
Mrs. May Suggs  
Mr. & Mrs. Doug Powell  
Mrs. Lillie Summerville  
Mr. & Mrs. Leo I. Leake  
W. C. (Billy) Sutton  
Ms. Cecil V. Wells  
Bryant Ray Swearingen  
Anna Lou Ross  
Beatrice Ross  
Mrs. Anna C. Ross  
Bubba, June Aust & Children  
Mrs. Lottie W. Swearingen  
Miss Glanara Anderson  
Mrs. C. A. Tate  
Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Currey, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker  
Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Thomas  
Glad Tidings Homemakers.  
Magnolia  
Mrs. Minnie J. Thomas  
Mr. & Mrs. W. O. Stone  
Mrs. Paul Lackey  
Mr. & Mrs. W. P. Garth  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Manning  
Mrs. Daisy Thornton  
Sadie Crawford  
Ann Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. James Harrell  
Mrs. Dora Tillery  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter H. Kendall  
Mr. & Mrs. Wilber H. Rainey  
Dr. Virginia Tolbert  
Dr. & Mrs. Gary Jackson  
Mrs. Eunice B. Tullos  
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Stennett  
Mrs. Guy Vaughn  
Irene & Jeff D. Crisler  
Mrs. Eva Ware  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Knight  
Gay Ware  
James C. Wiggins  
Justin Warrington  
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Hancock  
Bertie Watkins  
Mrs. Gordon Way  
Marion T. Hewitt  
Senior Sunshiners, Clinton  
Bay Hills Baptist Church  
Mrs. Artie Lou Webster  
Mrs. Harmon Wallace  
Mr. John Wesley, Sr.  
Young Adult Sunday School.  
Wesson  
Mrs. Irene White  
Mrs. J. N. McGraw  
Mrs. Minnie P. White  
Dr. & Mrs. Richard S. Myers  
Mrs. Irene Whittington  
Mrs. Mathilde Harrigill  
Stanton Baptist Church  
Walter Whittington  
Boyles Moak & Stone



PAUL N. NUNNERY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## The Baptist Children's Village

P. O. BOX 11308  
JACKSON • MISSISSIPPI 39213

August 15, 1985

Dear Baptist Friend:

The Children's Village needs help -- literally! The number of people serving as Houseparents on our staff is dangerously low! We need to immediately employ a number of qualified and caring Christians who are willing to invest their time and energies in daily "hands-on" supervision of Village children and youth, on a full-time, residential basis. Single ladies as well as husband/wife teams will be considered.

Our ministry offers the opportunity for life-investment in the purest and most basic Christian mission adventure, without the demands of formal training or prior experience. If you know Christians who are between the ages of 35 and 60 years; in good physical and emotional health; who enjoy the unquestioned character and reputation which we must require; who can accept group living; who relate to children and youth stably and in good humor -- have them contact us. Many have found their most satisfying and rewarding years with us, serving God through service to special children, training while serving.

Adequate cash salaries, room, board, utilities, laundry facilities, life and health insurance, a generous retirement program -- all furnished. Applicants must be able to furnish references, including a health certificate and the endorsement of a local pastor. We are unable at this time to consider applicants who have dependent children.

Write J. Wallace Lee or Henry M. Glaze at The Baptist Children's Village, Post Office Box 11308, Jackson, Mississippi, 39213 or telephone either at (601) 922-2242. Will you help us as we try to help others?

Gratefully,

*Paul N. Nunnery*  
PAUL N. NUNNERY  
Executive Director



PNN:ct

Allie Ray Rasberry  
Stanton Baptist Church,  
Natchez  
Mrs. Ruby Raymond  
Annie Mae Weaver Sunday  
School, Tupelo  
Mrs. Ida Lou Redding  
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cooper  
Mrs. Deroy Reese  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis E. Fancher,  
Jr. & Family  
Lee Reese  
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Robertson  
Johnny Rhinewalt  
Becky Thomas  
Mr. Grady Rice  
Miss Glanara Anderson  
Dr. & Mrs. E. M. Causey  
Mr. & Mrs. G. E. Duck  
Suzie & Ami Duck  
Mrs. E. H. Richie  
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle V. Corey  
Mrs. Ruth Riley  
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Thornhill  
Mrs. Alma N. Roberts  
Ben & Nancy Morgan  
Mr. I. N. Roberts  
Mrs. Thomas Fite Paine  
Mrs. Bessie T. Parish

Mr. E. R. Green  
Mrs. Earl Horton  
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Keeton  
Mrs. Morris Hubbard  
Mae Caldwell  
Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Cunningham  
Mr. & Mrs. John G. Hardy  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter B. Moore  
Alma F. Smith & Daughters  
TEL Sunday School, Grenada  
Mr. & Mrs. Ferrell Barksdale  
Mr. & Mrs. T. J. Staten  
Mrs. N. L. Douglass  
Mrs. Wilna Pendergrast  
Mr. E. R. Green

Mr. Henry Elmer Russell  
Mrs. James Chapman  
Mrs. Harvey Sale  
Mrs. Bob Garner & Family  
Mrs. Mallie Cook Sale  
Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Head

Mrs. Kate Sanderfer  
Rebekah K. Myers  
Mrs. J. N. Sanders  
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle V. Corey  
John S. Sandlin, Jr.  
Mrs. George Reid

Mrs. Bess Sisson  
Nellie & Ray Whelan  
John C. Skelton  
Mr. & Mrs. Garvin Knight  
Mr. C. Arnold Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. William I.  
Peacock  
Mr. Erroll Smith  
Dr. & Mrs. C. W. Ball  
Mr. & Mrs. Leo I. Leake  
Mr. Jack Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. William I.  
Peacock  
Mr. & Mrs. I. G. Patterson  
James A. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kemp  
Mr. John E. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence  
Kenneth & Scott  
Frances L. McKee  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter H. Kendall  
Dr. Kenneth F. Smith  
Miss Beatrice Brownlee  
Mr. Malcolm Smith  
Rev. & Mrs. Granville Watson  
Mr. Shelby B. Smith  
Mrs. Lila Worman  
Eugene I. Farr  
Mrs. A. V. Farr

## Back To School

It's almost "BACK TO SCHOOL" time for "MISSISSIPPI'S LARGEST FAMILY -- THE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE" where Home Life Directors, Social Service workers and Houseparents are frantically coordinating efforts to "be ready". Can you imagine preparing required identification records, selecting clothes, arranging schedules, purchasing supplies, etc. for more than two hundred children (over 600 during the total year) who attend public schools in addition to our college students for whom we are responsible?

WE MUST HAVE YOUR HELP TO REACH OUR \$125,000 "BACK TO SCHOOL" goal! Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director, said that "last year we missed this goal by more than \$50,000". Send us your gift IMMEDIATELY!



# Baptist Record

- Bible Book: *Jeremiah versus the false prophets*
- Uniform: *Judgment, repentance, and hope*
- Life and Work: *The Spirit gives life*

## Judgment, repentance, and hope

By Anthony S. Kay  
Joel 1:14-16; 2:12-13, 26-29

The lesson this week presents the heart of Joel's message to the people of God. Involved in this material for consideration is the judgment of God presented, the nature of God revealed and the results that follow repentance.

**The judgment of God presented:** (1:14-16) In this passage, Joel gives an urgent call to fasting and prayer. The purpose of fasts was often associated with a grave disaster. It required the individual to deny bodily pleasure and to cry to the Lord for help. It can be illustrated by our statement, "It's out of our hands; we must put ourselves into God's hand." The priests were to proclaim a fast and cry to the Lord. This was to alert the people of the consequences of their sinfulness. Their loss of food and the enjoyment and happiness that revolves around the meal is paralleled by the spiritual emptiness and the lack of spiritual joy.

"The day of the Lord is near," is both a present reality and a future reality for the people of God. The present adversities of the people were to serve as a reminder of God's judgment. The use of the term Shaddai (associated

with the mountains) suggests that the God of loftiness and majesty was, at this point in his relationship with his people, ready to demonstrate his destructive judgment. Joel says, "Alas for the day!"

**The nature of God revealed:** (2:12-13) Joel viewed the severe judgment of God described above as an expression of God's desire to redeem his people. God does not want to rid himself of these wayward people, rather he wants to bring them to repentance. God makes a conditional promise to Israel. First, he says, "Return (turn from your wickedness) to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments," thus implying that God wants our sincere and genuine repentance. The outward show of all religious rituals will never suffice for the need to have an inner, life-altering experience of forgiveness. Secondly, he acknowledges if man meets God's requirement, then God will be gracious and merciful to all who truly repent. He is described as being slow to anger (actually long of nostril

and slow to snort). God will remain steadfast in his love and will relent and revoke the threatened judgment when sinners return to him.

**The results of repentance:** (2:26-29) God will clearly accept and receive His people. He will provide them with gracious and ample provisions. When our daughter, Kathy, was a child, on one occasion we mentioned at the evening meal that she was eating a lot of food. She promptly quoted, as many of us often do with a slight adjustment of the scripture, "the Bible says to 'eat and be plenty full!'" God will satisfy our physical and our spiritual hunger. He will vindicate his name among his people.

When God acts in this way, Joel noted that God will pour out his spirit on all flesh. Joel believed that God would, in the fullness of time, scatter the knowledge of himself among his people. The impact of this spiritual out-pouring would result in lives turning to God for salvation. The truth of this prophecy is fully and astonishingly realized in Jesus of Nazareth. He is the Hope of the world.

Kay is pastor, First, Calhoun City.

## The Spirit gives life

By David W. Spencer  
2 Corinthians 2:14-3:6

**I. Broken relationships**  
Though this passage deals with the issue of authenticity in ministry, remember that in most of this letter Paul is dealing with the need for and the ministry of reconciliation. Last week we looked at the need for reconciliation within the church family. This week the implied context seems to be the larger area of reconciliation of all people to God. The Corinthians are being asked to consider the ministry of reconciliation to which Paul has been called and also the whole church's contribution to this ministry of reconciliation. Our lost and sinful world needs to be reconciled to God.

**II. Key words**  
Paul uses two special words as he discusses the various people involved in the ministry of reconciliation. **Peddle** in verse 17 came from a Greek term which meant "to hawk spiritual goods" or "to deal in spiritual matters for profit." **Sincerity** in verse 17 literally meant "to judge by sunlight." It referred to the custom of holding a piece of pottery or other object up to the sun to see if it had any cracks or flaws in it. Therefore, sincerity meant that there was nothing to hide.

**III. Interpretation**  
Paul begins his discussion on the ministry of reconciliation by drawing from a graphic picture of life in the ancient world. A Roman triumphus was a victory parade led by the conquering general and his army, followed by the humiliated prisoners of war. Along the parade route, incense was scattered. This perfume let everybody in town know what had happened.

Surely Paul is thinking about the victory of Jesus Christ over sin and death. It is the idea of incense which Paul applies to the Christian ministry. This sweet fragrance meant one of two things to those in the parade. To the hometown folks it was "the sweet

smell of success." To the prisoners of war it was "the smell of defeat." it all depended on where you stood.

Paul compared the Christian ministry to the job of spreading incense throughout Corinth so that all could know of Christ's great victory over sin.

Having demonstrated the important role of this ministry of reconciliation, Paul turns in verse 17 to demand sincerity in ministry. Apparently there had appeared in Corinth "hucksters of the Gospel" whose motive was not reconciliation but money.

In Chapter 3 it is apparent that these "spiritual peddlers" had all the right recommendations but questioned Paul's authority as a Christian minister. To this issue Paul replied that the best "letters of recommendation" were not written in ink but in the changed lives of the people of Corinth! The fruit of the Christian ministry is not high sounding titles, pious words, or written recommendations, but is a series of changed lives.

Paul closes his argument (4-6), stating that his authenticity comes not from written codes or man-made creeds but from the Spirit of the Lord.

**IV. Eternal truth**  
All Christians have a stake in the ministry of reconciliation. By being around us, lost people ought to be able to detect the "aroma of Christ."

All people involved in ministry are not authentic. There is a lot of money to be made in the name of religion. Invest your money carefully.

There has been a move in recent years to reduce the Christian life to a set of rules. Untold numbers of books and speakers claim to have found "the secret" of the Christian life. They offer us "ten principles," "seven foundations," and a host of other magic formulas to define the Christian life. Where is the place of the Holy Spirit? It is the Spirit who gives life!

Spencer is pastor, First, Long Beach.

## Jeremiah versus the false prophets

By J. Gerald Harris  
Jeremiah 28:5-10, 12-13, 15-17

One interesting feature about the prophet Jeremiah was that on occasion he would not only preach his sermons, but he would act them out. He was a great dramatist. He often proclaimed his message in symbolic and graphic ways.

In our text we see that Jeremiah places a plowman's wooden yoke over his shoulders to symbolize the need of Judah to submit to Babylon. He believes that it was God's will for the people to submit to the yoke of Babylon.

However, false prophets had come upon the scene. Their message was different from the message of Jeremiah. They were not promoting the principle of submit and survive. They were saying, "You shall not serve the king of Babylon" (27:9).

As Jeremiah contended with these false prophets he found himself in a life or death struggle for the hearts and minds of men. Of the false prophets Jeremiah said, "They speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord" (23:16). Concerning these deceitful men, God declared, "I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied... they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart" (23:21,26).

**I. The definition of a false prophet** (v. 5-9) — Following a long procession of false prophets, Hananiah begins to express himself. Through his

message, which he declares to be from the Lord (v. 2), Hananiah gives the people false hopes of prosperity and peace. His message lulls the people into a false security. In essence, he was preaching a cheap grace. He was preaching salvation without repentance and peace without a price.

Jeremiah, because of his love for Judah, declares, "Amen: the Lord do so: the Lord perform thy words which thou has prophesied" (v. 6). Jeremiah heartily wishes that Hananiah's prophecy might prove true. It is interesting to note that Jeremiah prays for his people though he has prophesied against them. He loved his people, but he did not cut corners with the truth. Love does not soft-pedal the truth, but it never ceases to make intercession.

Then Jeremiah turns to Hananiah and speaks so that all can hear, "The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him" (v. 9). A prophet is a true prophet only if his prediction comes to pass. If it does not come to pass he is an imposter and a charlatan.

**II. The deeds of a false prophet** (v. 10, 12-13) — Hananiah reacted violently to the truth of Jeremiah's declaration. He tears the yoke (the symbol appointed by God) off Jeremiah's neck and breaks it asunder. Hananiah

then brazenly restates his prediction that Nebuchadnezzar will be deposed from the throne in two years. We can be certain that the people favored Hananiah's prophecy. He told them what they wanted to hear. With the tide rising against him, Jeremiah meekly and silently removes himself from the scene (v. 11).

Undoubtedly, in a moment of solitude and meditation God gives Jeremiah the reassurance he needs and burns in his heart a word of warning and doom which he is commissioned to declare to Hananiah. When men abuse the true prophet of God and reject his message, God is bound to intervene. Indeed, those who reject the easy yoke of Christ will have to wear a heavy burdensome one.

**III. The death of a false prophet** (v. 15-17) — Jeremiah, under the authority of God, takes aim at Hananiah and fires a rifle shot of renunciation pronouncing God's judgment upon him as a false prophet. God is forever voicing a warning against false teachers and preachers. In Paul's letter to Titus he said, "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers... whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not..."

Hananiah died according to the saying of Jeremiah. Did this fulfillment of prophecy alert the people to the fact that Jeremiah was sent from God with a message that should be heed-

## Adventists growing

NEW ORLEANS, La. (EP) — The 2,300 delegates attending the 54th world conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at the Louisiana Superdome here were told that theirs is one of the world's fastest growing Christian denominations.

It took 92 years for the church to reach the first half million mark; the church now numbers 4.5 million, and has added the last half million in less than two years. During the denomination's "1,000 Days of Reaping" evangelism program, which ran from Sept., 1982 to mid-June, 1985, 1,171,390 people joined the church, an average of 1,171 persons per day.

Sadly, the people were not convinced and continued to rebel against God's Word. Unfortunately, history records the demise of many nations that refused to listen to the true prophets of God.

Harris is pastor, Colonial Heights, Jackson.

Baptist Record

CARRIER ROUTE 33  
291 8-01  
005-DTH  
SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY 00  
127 9TH AVE N  
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

August 15, 1985